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A WEEKLY JOURNAL.

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Summary.

THERE was a hearing in regard to the Condy's fluid case on Tuesday, but it has been again adjourned.

NOTTINGHAM chemists have celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of their local association by a dinner.

A CARDIFF drug-dealer has been fined for selling cigars and an unstamped nostrum. He had no licence for selling either of the goods.

A NUMBER of useful hints for chemists' Christmas displays have been derived from our post-card competition, which is reported this week.

WE give the results, but reserve the full report, of the last Students' Corner competition, which has been exceptionally spirited this month.

EDINBURGH chemists have formed a trade association to take the place of the price-list committee which the advent of "cutting" disbanded.

THE Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association has favourably discussed Mr. Charles Thompson's proposal for a territorial Pharmaceutical Council.

A CHEMIST's young assistant, who was more kind than judicious, medically visited a man who was dying of Bright's disease, and he has been censured by a coroner.

THE Pharmaceutical evening meeting on Wednesday was rather poorly attended. Mr. Holmes described the botany of the Riviera, and La Mortola, Mr. Thomas Hanbary's residence.

DR. LAUDER BRUNTON lectured to the Chemists' Assistants' Association last week on "Impurities and Mistakes." Tellurium in bismuth and the impurities of alcohol were the chief topics.

WE record the death this week of Mr. Frederick Burbidge of the firm of Burgoyne, Burbidges, Cyriax & Farries. The deceased gentleman was at one time a prominent member of the Surrey Cricket Club.

MR. GEDDES's action against Mr. Stephens, in which the former claims damages for malicious imprisonment, and the commencement of which we reported last week, is still proceeding. The evidence reveals a condition of bitter rivalry between competing medicine-men.

THE chemist's assistant Macdonald (*alias* Shepperley) who has been convicted of stealing money and goods from a chemist at West Malling, and whose sensational confession of a long series of frauds we published lately, has been sentenced to five years' penal servitude.

WE give a summary of a correspondence which has been published in some Dublin papers between the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland and a Protestant clergyman who appears to entertain a bitter animosity against the pharmaceutical profession.

THE report of the December meeting of the Irish Pharmaceutical Council contains the annual comments of the Privy Council's visitor on the examinations. Dr. Duffey seems to be of opinion that the improved percentage of passes in the Preliminary Examination is due to undue leniency on the part of the Council.

THE Stamford magistrates have dismissed a case brought against a chemist for the sale of tincture of rhubarb—alleged to have been of inferior quality—on the ground that the purchase, being made on September 12, and the summons issued on November 25, proceedings had not been taken "within a reasonable time." The delay, it was said, was due to the analyst.

A CONSCIENTIOUS drug-dealer, who had a bottle labelled "Tr. Camph. Co." on his shelf, has been summoned at Coventry for refusing to sell some of the stuff to an inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act. He said he was not allowed by law to sell compound tincture of camphor, and this bottle only contained coloured water. The summons was dismissed.

IN the Bloomsbury County Court, on Wednesday, the Pharmaceutical Society sued a grocer to recover a penalty of 5l. for selling a proprietary medicine containing a poison. The case was defended by the Grocers' Association, and it is expected that it will be carried to the High Court. The decision of the County Court Judge was emphatically in favour of the Pharmaceutical Society.

DIARY COUPONS.

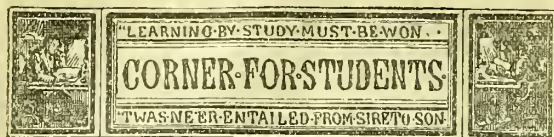
Subscribers are requested to fill up the coupons which were sent out with the DIARIES for 1893 and to return them to the Editor as early as possible. The competition for home subscribers will close on December 31. The Editor offers 10l. in prizes. The conditions of the competition are given upon the coupon.

Next Week.

Secretaries of Associations and Societies should give the Editor post-card notice of meetings to be held, and the business to be transacted thereat, by Wednesday of the week before.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21.—*Royal Microscopical Society* 20 Hanover Square, W. Mr. J. Hood on "New Species of Rotifera"; Mr. E. M. Nelson on "The Chromatic Curves of Microscope-lenses."

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21.—*Pharmaceutical Society, North British Branch*, at 8.30 P.M. (1) "Action of Volatile Oil of *Atherosperma moschata*," by Dr. R. Stockman; (2) "Life-history and Physiological Chemistry of Koumiss," by Gordon Sharp, M.B. Edin.; (3) "Animal Charcoal as a Decoloriser," by T. R. Carswell; (4) Adjourned discussion on B.P. revision.



CONDUCTED BY RICHARD J. MOSS, F.C.S., F.I.C.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will again form the subject of the exercise in Qualitative Analysis. It is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, and competitors will be required to show in the reports they send in that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts will be received up to Wednesday, December 21, and the samples will be forwarded immediately.

Students' reports will be received up to Wednesday, January 4. This allows three days' longer than usual for the analysis, so as not to interfere with the Christmas holidays. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected; in this list substances detected in small quantity should be distinguished from the chief constituents of the mixture. Owing to the pressure on our space we hold the report of this month's competition until next week, but we may state that the first prize for the best analysis this month has been awarded to

W. TILTMAN ("Zirconium"), care of Messrs. Matthews & Son, Harrow Green, N.E.

The second prize has been awarded to

WALTON PORTER, Whitehaven, Cumberland.

The special prize for the highest number of marks obtained in the competitions for the past six months has been awarded to Mr. Walton Porter, who obtained 560 marks out of a possible 600.

English Notes.

The Missing-word Craze

has extended to proprietary-medicine advertisers. A Torquay chemist advertises that his preparation is the most ——— cough-mixture. It is one of the following words:—Admirable, agreeable, beneficial, celebrated, comforting, effectual, effective, efficacious, excellent, extraordinary, famous, genuine, harmless, instantaneous, infallible, marvellous, pleasant, popular, restoring, reliable, renowned, safe, strengthening, successful, soothing, unique, wonderful, and wholesome, and the real word is in an envelope. Purchasers of the stuff are entitled to guesses at the rate of one for a 1s. bottle or three for a 2s. 6d. bottle, and the proprietor offers to divide 5l. among the successful guessers.

Fires.

A fire occurred last week on the premises of Mr. C. H. Wilkinson, wholesale chemist, Low Street, Keighley, through the upsetting of a hottle of ether near the fireplace. Damage was done to the extent of 50l., which is covered by insurance.

A small fire was caused last week on the premises of Mr. D. Fuller, wholesale druggist, 150 Minories, by the vapour of menthol coming into contact with the vapour of gas-light.

On December 9, Bentley Farnhill, an assistant to Mr. J. T. Bentley, chemist, Boothferry Road, Goole, was engaged in making some furniture-paste over a paraffin-stove when the contents of the vessel became ignited and set fire to the

shop. The young man failed to get out of the shop, but was rescued by a neighbour. The flames were soon subdued. The damage is estimated at 200l.

An Unqualified Chemist's Assistant Visits and Prescribes.

An inquest has been held at St. Clears, Carmarthen, respecting the death of Thomas Lewis, a grocer, aged 29. The inquiry had been adjourned to allow of a *post mortem* examination. Dr. Harries, who had formerly attended deceased, had refused to give a certificate. It appeared that latterly the deceased had been attended by a young man named Jenkins, an unqualified assistant in the employ of Mr. Williams, a local chemist. Mr. Williams was present, and so frequently interfered by asking questions of the witnesses that the Coroner ordered him out of the room. The *post-mortem* examination showed that Lewis died from Bright's disease and inflammation of the kidneys. At the first hearing, Morris William Jenkins, having been cautioned by the Coroner, said: "I am 21 years of age, and am not a qualified chemist. About a month ago I went to see the deceased at his lodgings. I felt his pulse and examined his tongue and tested his urine and prescribed for him. He became much better after that. Last Thursday morning I was again sent for. Deceased asked me if I could give him anything to relieve his bowels—that Dr. Harries was neglecting him. I administered an enema to him. It consisted of 4 oz. of lukewarm water and a teaspoonful of salt. I did it because he said he was neglected. I did not think it right to tell Dr. Harries this. I only guessed what was the matter with him. I am not in the habit of attending patients. The deceased's howls were opened then. He told me he was much better. He did not pass any blood. This was the first time I ever used an enema." Dr. Harries gave evidence and said he had called in another doctor, who agreed with him that the man was dying. The administration of an enema under the circumstances was not proper treatment. The Coroner, in addressing the jury, said there was now no doubt that the death was caused by inflammation of the kidneys. But for the attendance upon Dr. Harries's patient of another person there would have been no necessity to hold this inquest. This person, who was an assistant in a chemist's shop, and not even a qualified chemist, had passed no examination whatever, and had not earned a qualification to attend a sick person, except a qualification of impudence and conceit. None of them believed that young Jenkins went to this man to do anything other than to try to do him good. If he had any other intention he would have been guilty of a very serious offence. He (the Coroner) hoped this would be a lesson to him, and that he would not continue to practise in this way without undergoing the necessary examination. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony.

Theft of Condyl's Fluid.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court on Tuesday, William Brown, packer, and John Dare, grocer and oilman, were again brought up on remand and charged with stealing and receiving large quantities of Condyl's Fluid. (We reported the previous hearing in our last issue.) George Gillies, convict, said he was sentenced at the last October Sessions to five years' penal servitude on three indictments, one of which was for stealing and receiving 10 gross of Condyl's Fluid. He purchased the goods mentioned from the prisoner Brown and a man named Peace, in the employ of Messrs. Condyl & Mitchell. The price he paid Brown and Peace was 36s. a gross. He sold the goods to a Mr. Hesse, of Fore Street. Mr. Hesse paid him on August 2 last 1l., and on August 3, 20l. and 9l. by cheques. He afterwards met Brown and Peace and paid the latter 18l. to divide between them. Later in the month of August he had a further 5 gross from Brown and Peace. He directed them to deliver that to Wray's, of Fleet Street, and he paid for it at the same rate as formerly. Mr. Wray only kept 3 gross, for which witness received payment. He paid to Brown or Peace 9l. for the 5 gross. He did not receive any more of Condyl's Fluid from Brown and Peace. He had known the prisoner Dare four or five years. He had sold for Dare 10 gross of Condyl's Fluid to Henry Hodder & Co., Bristol; 10 gross to Boot's Pure Drug Company (Limited), Nottingham; and to Wray & Co., of Fleet

Street, about 20 gross. Dare sold the fluid to witness at 3l. a gross. The Court then adjourned to December 21.

Nottingham and Notts Chemists' Association.

The twenty-fifth annual dinner of the Nottingham and Notts Chemists' Association was held at the Masonic Hall, Nottingham, on December 7. Mr. R. Fitzhugh, J.P., President, occupied the chair, and there was a large company. In the course of the evening,

The President proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain," and Mr. W. H. Parker, the Local Secretary, responded. A special toast of "Success to the British Pharmaceutical Conference of 1893" was proposed by Mr. Bolton, the Honorary Secretary of the Association. He said the third meeting of the Conference was held in Nottingham, and he urged all chemists to unite heartily to promote the success of the meeting in August next. Professor Clowes proposed the toast of "The Association." He had watched its work, he said, for twelve years, and could testify to the importance of the results which had been achieved. Alluding to the work done in connection with University College, Professor Clowes said the number of students who, having attended the classes at the College, had passed the examination enabling them to practise as chemists, showed more satisfactory results could not be shown in any town in the kingdom.

The Chairman, in replying, observed that he had been connected with the Association during the whole period of its existence. He had served as secretary and vice-president, and for the last seventeen years as president. Mr. Fitzhugh gave some reminiscences of old friends, and particularly referred to the meeting of the Conference in 1866.

Mr. Wilford also responded, and

Mr. Gill, the Honorary Secretary, said that the work which had been accomplished in connection with the University College had resulted in placing their Association in the foremost rank among such organisations. He often received communications from secretaries of associations in other towns, asking for information as to their methods of working. He had been told that the teaching given at the University College was equal to that at Bloomsbury Square itself. They had only to establish at the College a class in pharmacy to make the arrangements quite complete.

"The Town and Trade of Nottingham" was proposed by Mr. W. H. Booth, and responded to by the Sheriff of Nottingham.

Mr. Eberlin proposed "The Teachers of Classes," to which Professor Clowes, Mr. Carr, and Mr. Sergeant responded.

Mr. A. Middleton proposed "The Visitors," and Mr. Wills responded.

The American "Doctor."

Mr. Justice Grantham had William Henry Halle before him at the Liverpool Assizes last week, and gave him eighteen months' imprisonment for obtaining money by false pretences—viz., by acting as a physician and offering advice free, but getting money out of those who consulted him.

The Serious Charge against a Chemist.

At the Hyde Police Court on Monday, Wm. Seymour Gandy, chemist and druggist, of Gee Cross, was brought up on remand on the charge (referred to last week) of embezzling certain sums of money belonging to Messrs. Hulme & Co., wholesale chemists and druggists, Oldham. He was also charged with falsifying accounts. Mr. J. C. Williamson, managing director, stated that prisoner did not keep the accounts regularly, sometimes over a month elapsing between one entering up and another, and, on being written to to call and account, prisoner gave evasive answers in his replies (produced). In consequence of irregularities prisoner was discharged in September, 1892, and on October 17 rendered his last account, which showed a balance due from prisoner to the firm of 6l. 9s. 1d. Prisoner said he had not got the money, and subsequently said they must get it the best way they could. The accounts were afterwards gone into in prisoner's presence, and showed a sum of 65l. 13s. 8d. received by him on behalf of the firm and not accounted for, in addition to the sums for which proceedings were taken. Further inquiries showed that the amounts for which proceedings had been taken had been paid to prisoner and not entered in the account-book, and, on being told, prisoner

replied that he had not received them. Further evidence as to the settlement of the accounts having been given, Mr. Cooke, for the defence, said before the prosecutor could establish embezzlement it must be proved that prisoner had received the money and appropriated it to his own use with a fraudulent intention. Prisoner, while admitting having received the money, pleaded not guilty to the charge of embezzlement, and was committed for trial.

Disinfectants in Holborn.

At the meeting of the Holborn Board of Works on Monday, Mr. George Phillips in the chair, the Sanitary Committee recommended that the following firms be invited to tender for the supply of disinfectants to the Board:—Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Hopkin & Williams, A. White & Son, Sellers, Rees, Bainbridge & Pound, Burroughs, Calvert, McDougall, and the Sanitas Company (Limited). On the proposition of Mr. Benjamin Garrod, Messrs. Willows & Francis were added to the list. A letter was read from Jeyes Company (Limited), regretting that the committee had not thought fit to allow them to tender.

Stas's Eulogium.

Tuesday being the anniversary of the death of Stas—of "atomic weight" fame—was utilised by the Chemical Society, as an extra night, for a paper by Professor Mallet, an American chemist. The attendance was good, and comprised by invitation several chemists who had made contributions to the determination of true atomic weights. Mr. W. Crookes, F.R.S., presided, and the paper, in the author's absence, was read in abstract by Professor Armstrong. Singular interest attached to the early life and experimental work of Stas. He had an attic in his father's house where he purified raw chemicals, made others, and constructed a balance accurate to a milligramme, having steel knife-edges, and a glass indicating-needle fastened to the beam with sealing-wax. Professor Mallet discussed several of the conclusions arrived at by Stas, and concluded a long but able paper by suggesting the formation of a sort of Imperial laboratory under the auspices of the Royal and Chemical Societies, where chemists could be trained in and pursue undisturbed the methods and exactitudes of Stas to their logical conclusions. The Chairman proposed that the best thanks of the Society should be given to Professor Mallet for his paper. Dr. Russell, F.R.S., supported the proposition, and said that many years ago he had occasion to differentiate between nickel and cobalt in certain reactions, and the methods and accuracy of Stas, then particularly noticeable, had been of the utmost value to him in these researches. Professor Dewar, F.R.S., in supporting the motion, observed that Stas's fixation of 15.83 as the atomic weight of oxygen had been fully borne out by the determinations, of himself and Dr. Scott. In these the atomic weights of nitrogen and hydrogen had been determined, and inferentially that of oxygen, which by these indirect but logical tests was proved to be not 16, but 15.83. The professor deprecated the establishment of such a laboratory as had been suggested by Professor Mallet, believing such work as Stas's could and would be best performed by individual workers. Dr. Scott confirmed Professor Dewar's remarks, and stated that in collaboration with Professor Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S., the determination of hydrogen, purified and occluded subsequently as palladium hydrogen, had completely verified Stas's work. Mr. Pattinson Mair and Dr. Bailey, of Manchester, also joined in the discussion.

The Fraudulent Assistant.

Donald Macdonald, or William Shepperley, as his correct name proved to be, and whose remarkable career, as sketched by himself in his own written confession, appeared *in extenso* in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST a few weeks ago, was brought before Mr. Justice Hawkins, at the Kent Assizes, on Wednesday last, and pleaded guilty to the indictment charging him with having robbed Mr. H. C. H. Oliver, chemist and druggist, of West Malling. It will be remembered that the accused entered the prosecutor's service by forging testimonials and under an assumed name, and that at the end of the first week he suddenly left Malling, taking with him the contents of Mr. Oliver's cash-box, which he had broken open, besides a large number of articles of stationery, &c.

The Clerk of Arraignment asked the prisoner if he desired to say anything before his Lordship passed sentence upon him.

Prisoner (in clear and deliberate tones): My Lord, I don't ask for any mercy. I have made a written confession, which you have before you, and all that I have there stated is true. I want you to pass upon me a long sentence, so that I may be absent from society for a considerable time. Please do what you like with me.

These words were uttered by the accused with great apparent earnestness.

Mr. Justice Hawkins, addressing the prisoner, said he had carefully read his written statement, and he must say that it was a very remarkable one. The accused seemed to have been very fortunate in escaping from the clutches of the law, and there was no doubt he had committed many more robberies than those which he had confessed to. It was certainly surprising that he had been able to carry on the systematic practice of forging testimonials and sending them all over the country without being detected sooner. It was apparent that prisoner was a very clever criminal, and it was impossible to say the exact number of chemists who had suffered through his dishonesty. He should not accede to prisoner's request to send him away from society for a very long time, but he should pass upon him a somewhat severe sentence, to show both him and others that tradesmen must be protected. He then sentenced the prisoner to five years' penal servitude.

Prisoner, on hearing the sentence, said: "Thank you, my Lord. I sha'n't be a trouble to society now."

He left the dock with a smile on his face.

In consequence of the publication of the prisoner's portrait and particulars of his career in this journal, Superintendent Lane, of the Maling police force, who effected the capture of the prisoner, has received upwards of a hundred letters from chemists in England asking for information respecting the prisoner.

Laudanum Supplied for Tincture of Rhubarb.

An inquest was held on December 12 at Chilwell, Notts, before Mr. E. Williams, Coroner, respecting the death of William Charlton, 86, who, it appeared, died from the effects of a dose of laudanum, administered in mistake for tincture of rhubarb. Mrs. Charlton, who kept a small shop in Chilwell, had supplied the laudanum when tincture of rhubarb was asked for.

The Coroner remarked that he considered it a very dangerous practice for small shopkeepers to dispense such dangerous drugs as laudanum, while Dr. Pegge said he thought it was unwise and very wrong of firms to send out such large bottles of laudanum without them being labelled with a separate poison-label.

After the verdict the Coroner called Mrs. Charlton into the room, and, addressing her, said he hoped she would cease to sell dangerous drugs, as he thought only experienced people ought to sell them.

Tenders for Drugs.

At the last meeting of the St. Giles's Guardians, tenders for the supply of drugs to the several establishments of the Union for the ensuing twelve months were received from the following firms:—Messrs. Burgoyne & Co., Coleman Street; Hill & Sons, Southwark Street; Hodgkinson, Prestons & King, Bishopsgate Street; Wright, Layman & Umney, Southwark Street; and Baiss Brothers, Jewry Street. The tenders were referred to the Dispensary Committee for consideration and report. The committee will furnish their report at the next meeting of the Board, to be held on December 20.

West-end Chemists Avenged.

At the Central Criminal Court, on Tuesday, William Harris, 68, was sentenced to two years', and Annie Kenny, 22, to ten months' imprisonment, for attempting to utter counterfeit florins to chemists in the neighbourhood of Portman Square.

Libel by a Chemist's Assistant.

At the Hants Assizes on December 18, Mark Frater, 39, chemist's assistant, was indicted for maliciously publishing a defamatory libel on Thomas Watts, master-tailor of the

Royal Marine Artillery, at Portsmouth, on October 17. In answer to the charge, prisoner admitted publication, but said what he said was justifiable and true. His Lordship asked him if he wished for legal assistance, and, the prisoner replying in the affirmative, asked Mr. Ricketts to represent him. The case was postponed for Mr. Ricketts to go through the depositions. Subsequently Frater was again placed in the dock, and pleaded guilty. Sentence was postponed till the next day, when Frater appeared for judgment. The libel was contained in a letter addressed to the Commandant of the Royal Marine Artillery, accusing Watts of impropriety with the woman now Mrs. Frater.

Mr. Ricketts, on behalf of the prisoner, expressed his regret at the letter, and unreservedly withdrew its contents.

His Lordship: Does the prosecution press for a severe punishment?

Mr. Tickell: No, my Lord.

His Lordship, in passing sentence, said there was no doubt the prisoner had been misled by unfounded statements made by his wife. He thought the justice of the case would be met by fining the prisoner 5*l.*, and binding him over not to repeat the offence, and to be of good behaviour.

Medical Officer and Dispenser.

Dr. Sydney C. Smith, late of the Middlesex Hospital, and of Mount Pleasant, Warwickshire, was on Wednesday elected by the Holborn Board of Guardians as their assistant medical officer at the Highgate Infirmary. Dr. Smith was called before the Board and asked if he was willing to do a portion of the dispensing at the Infirmary. He replied that he was quite willing to do so. Mr. George Eade said the bottles in the dispensary needed re-labelling, and moved that Messrs. Hill & Son be instructed to do the necessary work. Dr. Hunter seconded this, and it was adopted.

Irish News.

The Curate and the Chemist.

The correspondence between the President of the Pharmaceutical Society (Mr. William Hayes) and the Rev. T. L. Palmer, to which we referred last week was published in the *Irish Times* of last Saturday. It will be remembered that the clergyman referred to recently preached a sermon on "Insincerity" in which he indulged in some indignant comments on the chemist "who substitutes what may be analogons for what is ordered by the physician in his prescription," and added, "You may say this never happens, but I can name five or six persons who would be alive to-day if this was not done."

That was what some chemists present understood him to say. Mr. Hayes wrote to the reverend gentleman, saying the charge was one of wholesale murder, and in polite language calling upon him to either substantiate it or apologise for it. The curate responded eight days later, and, first reminding Mr. Hayes that he was neither a "member of our congregation nor resident in our parish," stated that what he believed he actually said was—"If a chemist when he receives a prescription from a physician and has not some of the drugs ordered, substitutes a similar one, is there much reality in that? Oh, you may say, that never happens; but I could mention five or six persons who would, I believe, humanly speaking, be alive now had it never been done." The curate professed to see something essentially different in the two reports, "the one being a statement of fact, the other a supposition about which I express my opinion." He had heard of cases justifying his charge in Ireland, in Australia, and in Canada. He had not made a charge of murder. The essential feature in "murder" is malice aforethought. He regretted that his remarks should have disturbed the mind of any honest chemist, to whom it was self-evident they did not apply, and he wound up by asking the President, as one who is "jealous for the honour" of his Society, what he considered the highest profit at which an article may be sold compatible with commercial honesty; whether, for instance, it would be an honest transaction to sell a mixture containing, say, 2*d.* worth of drugs at 1*s.* 8*d.*, or, in other words, at about 1,000 per cent. profit?

* This trick of changing the battlefield was rather more clever than candid. Mr. Hayes replied at considerable length, pointing out, first, that he had not answered his inquiry, that his nice distinctions were not satisfactory, and then dealing with the curate's silly taunt more seriously perhaps than it deserved.

The innuendo, he said, was "as reasonable as that a physician should only charge for the value of the paper on which he writes his prescription, or a clergyman be paid for his work at the same rate as the most ignorant day labourer—though, indeed, in this section I fear your question might, with some show of truth, be repeated, paraphrased to suit the context—viz., what is the real value of a sermon which contains 'two grains of wheat in two bushels of chaff'?" He explained to him that a chemist must charge a higher rate of profit than the grocer if he is to live, his returns being so much smaller; but he did not admit for a moment the accuracy of the parson's "supposed" case of 1,000 per cent. profit. It was a thing of his own imagination, which, if ever it occurs, would not be likely once in a thousand cases. In a subsequent letter Mr. Hayes tells the curate that his conduct in making statements from the pulpit which he had failed to substantiate, and in making further innuendos against chemists as a class as being "dishonest traders," deserved a sharper rebuke than he had felt willing to inflict on one in the position which this critic occupied. He hoped the public would "weigh and determine" the case for themselves.

Scotch News.

Edinburgh Chemists' Assembly.

On Friday, December 9, the Edinburgh Chemists' Assistants', and Apprentices' Association and the Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club joined together for a ball in the Literary Institute, South Clerk Street. Between fifty and sixty couples attended, and under the guidance of Messrs. A. P. Atkinson, W. B. Cowie, G. B. Laing, and John Lothian they danced merrily and well.

A Trade Association for Edinburgh.

A meeting was held in the Pharmaceutical Society's rooms, Edinburgh, on Thursday evening, December 8, to consider the desirability of forming a local organisation for the purpose of holding meetings from time to time, as occasion may arise, to consider questions affecting their trade interests. There was an attendance of about thirty, and Mr. G. H. Laird was called to the chair. He said that there was great need for such an Association. The old one had done good work for the trade generally, and he was sorry that it was allowed to go out of existence.

Mr. Boa, who had issued the circular, explained that the idea of forming an Association had been mentioned frequently to him, and ultimately he had been asked to take the initial step. The general feeling seemed to be that it would be distinctly advantageous to have an Association for those purely local purposes which the Pharmaceutical Society could not take up, and it was only when questions arose affecting the trade all over the country that it would move.

In reply to Mr. Forret, who asked as to its scope, the Chairman said that the Association would work much on the lines of the old one for the protection of trade interests, and Mr. Boa added that, in the meantime, it was intended to have it organised so that it might be available to deal with matters which affected the trade in Edinburgh and district.

Mr. George Lunn, in moving the formation of an Association of chemists, pointed out the advantages which might be derived from it in regard to such matters as Inland Revenue prosecutions. Mr. James Mackenzie seconded the motion, and, after some discussion on a suggestion by Mr. McLaren that the word "druggists" should be included in the motion, Mr. Lunn's proposal was adopted. It was suggested that the subscription should be as low as possible—indeed, there would be little outlay, and when any special matter requiring funds cropped up, there would be a subscription.

Considerable discussion took place as to further procedure. Two proposals were submitted. One, by Mr. C. F. Henry, was to the effect that a provisional committee be appointed to nominate office-bearers and to draft rules for consideration at a future meeting; and the other, by Mr. McLaren, that a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and treasurer, and members of committee be appointed there and then. Ultimately the proposals were voted upon, and Mr. McLaren's was adopted, and the following office-bearers were appointed:—Chairman, Mr. G. H. Laird; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Peter Boa; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. C. F. Henry; Committee, Messrs. Noble, McLaren, John Robertson, Mackenzie, Wylie, C. A. Macpherson, Forret, J. B. Stephenson, Robert Aitken, Nesbit, Bowman, and Middleton.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Laird concluded the proceedings.

At a meeting of the Committee immediately afterwards the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary were appointed a sub-committee, to prepare a draft of the proposed rules and submit the same for consideration to a meeting of the committee, to be held on Friday evening, December 16.

Legal Reports.

THE ASTHMA-CURE QUARREL.

ON December 9, in the High Court of Justice, before Lord Coleridge and a special jury, the action brought by Mr. William Edwin Geddes, who carries on business as the Geddes Manufacturing Company, at 249 High Holborn, against Mr. James English Stephens, who carries on business at 249½ High Holborn as Dr. Hair & Son, to recover damages for alleged malicious prosecution and false imprisonment, was continued from the previous Wednesday. Malice was denied and reasonable and probable cause was pleaded.

Sir E. Clarke, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Horace Ivory, and Mr. A. Gill were counsel on behalf of the plaintiff, and the defendant was represented by Mr. Frank Lockwood, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Charles Matthews, and Mr. Scrutton.

The cross-examination of the plaintiff by Mr. Lockwood was continued. Plaintiff said that Ormsby, who was formerly in the service of Dr. Hair, at 249½ High Holborn, subsequently entered his service. It was not true that Ormsby came into his employ for the purpose of giving plaintiff Dr. Hair's formula for asthma cure. Ormsby had a formula of his own, which he brought from America. Mr. Geddes was shown an agreement entered into between him and Ormsby which set forth that, in consideration of Ormsby allowing Geddes to use a pamphlet written by him in connection with an asthma-remedy and also his formula for the asthma-cure, Ormsby was to receive 25 per cent. of the net profits. Plaintiff admitted that agreement. Counsel then produced certain letters and circulars issued by plaintiff and Ormsby. The first circular, dated July, 1888, said that since there was no longer any firm of Dr. B. W. Hair & Son carrying on business in Great Britain the plaintiff had secured Ormsby's formula for asthma cure. The cure had been manufactured under plaintiff's supervision by the Geddes Manufacturing Company. It was not true that when that circular was sent out he knew Mr. Stephens had purchased Dr. Hair's business. He knew Hair's business was being carried on, but he believed illegally. In July, 1888, Ormsby went to America, leaving witness authority to open his letters. He intended to return to England, but did not.

Letters were then read to a Mrs. Palmer, a Miss Haddington, and a Mr. Kent, written in 1888 by plaintiff, in reply to letters ordering medicine and enclosing postal orders.

Mr. Lockwood: Did the letters come addressed to Ormsby asking for Dr. Hair's cure?

Witness: I cannot say. I wrote to those persons stating Ormsby had left the employ of Dr. Hair, that the business of Dr. Hair was no longer being carried on, but that I was manufacturing a cure from Ormsby's formula superior to any cure ever offered to the public.

Why did you say Ormsby had left Dr. Hair's employ?—Because he had.

But what reason was there to mention Dr. Hair's name?—

Because I wanted people to know Ormsby had now nothing to do with Hair's business.

Let me suggest to you you mentioned Hair's business because people wanted Hair's medicine and you got hold of the letters.—That is not true.

Continuing, witness said that when he got letters addressed to Hair he always sent them next door. If they were addressed to Ormsby of course he kept them. Plaintiff formerly had a lady named Butler in his employ as a clerk at Vogeler & Co.'s, 45 Farringdon Road. There was also a Miss Longworth employed there, and she was given a book to copy out names and addresses. That was a list of names of persons who wrote for St. Jacobs Oil and the like.

Wasn't the book one which contained the names of asthma patients?—No.

Wasn't there a book burnt containing a great number of names?—Yes.

Where did you get the list of names from?—Mr. Ormsby gave us a list. There were not about 10,000 names and addresses.

Did you in July, 1890, ask Miss Butler to go and ask Miss Longworth whether Dr. Hair had seen her about a book of names?—No; I did not.

Witness most positively denied that once the closet-pipe in his residence was blocked, and being cleared was found choked with letters addressed to Dr. Hair & Son.

Wasn't there a letter to your solicitor about it?—Well, now I come to think about it, there was something of the kind, but the pipe was not choked with Hair's letters.

Continuing, plaintiff admitted that the pamphlet sent out by the Geddes Manufacturing Company was somewhat similar to that issued by Dr. Hair & Son. The pamphlet was written by Ormsby.

Didn't you in your book incorporate from Dr. Hair's book a testimonial from a Mr. R. M. Rose, of Warrington Park, Edinburgh?—No.

Where did you get the testimonial from?—The testimonial was in reference to something Hair did not sell.

Sir E. Clarke, interposing, said the date of the testimonial was October 5, 1881, and was to Mr. Ormsby before Ormsby had anything to do with Dr. Hair & Son.

Mr. Lockwood: They have taken at least several of our testimonials and published them.

Sir E. Clarke remonstrated, and said that in the civil action there was an application to restrain Geddes from using testimonials addressed to Hair. The Judge found not a single testimonial had been used by Geddes which belonged to Hair.

Cross-examination continued: Witness, being pressed, admitted there was some communication from Mr. Stephens's solicitors about the blocking of the pipe; but he denied that letters found in the pipe belonged to Hair.

Mr. Lockwood: If a letter came to you addressed to Hair & Son do you consider you would be entitled to open it?—No.

If letters were addressed to Ormsby and contained orders for Hair's goods, what would you do? because you know you had authority to open Ormsby's letters when he was away in America.—I should probably write to the people and say we did not supply Hair's goods, and that we had no connection with Hair in any manner.

What if the letters contained money?—Well, we should send it back or hold it over for instructions.

Proceeding, witness said that in February, 1833, he wrote to the Rev. E. L. Hopkins, of Andover, stating that the Ormsby asthma cure had been changed to the name of Dr. Spencer's asthma cure. He denied, however, that that letter was written in reply to a letter addressed to Mr. Ormsby asking for Dr. Hair's cure.

If you received a letter addressed to Ormsby asking for Dr. Hair's cure, would you have handed over the order to Hair's office?—Well, no. I would no doubt have written saying our cure was the best, and asking if we should forward a bottle.

In further cross-examination witness said that after carrying on business for some time at 249½ High Holborn, he changed the address to 249. He thought he was entitled to open a letter addressed "The Manager, 249½ High Holborn" because his firm had a larger mail than anybody else in the building. He probably opened the letter without looking at the address. He opened a letter so addressed from a Mrs.

Butler, and a reply was sent saying that the Spencer cure would be forwarded at a reduced price if for charitable purposes. Mrs. Butler answered that she did not order the Spencer cure but the Hair cure, with which she was quite satisfied. Thereupon plaintiff replied to her saying that what was asked for was bronchial cough cure and that the order was sent to 249 High Holborn. Any letters which came to plaintiff which ought to have gone to Dr. Hair would be immediately handed over. Plaintiff had heard that Dr. Hair's post-box had been broken open two or three times. Dr. Hair's address at 249½ High Holborn had been on several occasions painted out in black paint. This proceeding he agreed was highly improper, but he denied that he had anything to do with it. It was not true that he had attempted to prevent newspapers taking advertisements about the Hair asthma cure. Letters were read written by him to Hereford and Fraserburgh papers saying the Geddes Manufacturing Company could not advertise in journals where there were references to Hair's cure. Plaintiff said he wrote in this strain to probably half-a-dozen papers. At present he received about fifty letters a day at High Holborn. As to the two letters addressed to Hair & Son which he was alleged to have stolen, he was shown them at 9 o'clock at night on January 2 last. Nobody connected with Hair's business resided on the premises. When he was brought before the magistrate at Bow Street, charged with theft, the case was adjourned to enable the prosecuting solicitor, Mr. Wontner, to investigate the papers which had been obtained from Mr. Geddes's premises.

The plaintiff was re-examined by Sir E. Clarke. He said that the only access his solicitor was allowed to the books was at the police station. He still had his goods manufactured at the factory in Canada, although he had ceased to have an interest in the factory. Prior to 1838, when he commenced business in High Holborn, he had a large number of names and addresses of persons who had previously purchased his remedies. Mr. Stephens and his counsel had obtained names and addresses of his customers from his private letter-book, which was seized by Inspector Marshall under a warrant. The circulars written by Mr. Ormsby, and for which plaintiff paid the printer for 10,000, had only been circulated to a small extent. By plaintiff's instructions they were cut up, and were now used as memorandum slips. It was not true that the circulars were sent to persons whose addresses he had obtained from a book brought to him by Ormsby. The circulars were destroyed because plaintiff did not approve of the wording. It was not true he had obtained names from a book which formerly belonged to Dr. Hair.

The Lord Chief Justice pointed out that the plaintiff had already admitted obtaining from Ormsby a book containing names.

Sir E. Clarke said that had only reference to 200 names which were in Ormsby's private book.

Plaintiff explained that Ormsby himself dealt in remedies which Hair did not manufacture. The book containing the 200 names referred to these remedies. Ormsby carried on a private business, and he, of course, kept the names and addresses in a book. Apart from that list, plaintiff had never had any names through Ormsby which had anything to do with the transactions of Dr. Hair & Son. It was true he had told people there was no longer the firm of Dr. Hair & Son in London because he had seen a letter to that effect from Hair to Ormsby. In October, 1833, when witness was in America, he wrote to his housekeeper at High Holborn saying her action was quite right in not taking in registered letters to J. W. Hair, and also in taking letters addressed to J. W. Hair back to his letter-box. That had been the course adopted prior to his going to America. As to the Rose testimonial plaintiff knew nothing about it except from information given him by Ormsby. It was written at a time when he (plaintiff) was not supplying asthma cures in this country. In respect to the letters alleged to have been discovered in the closet-pipe, his solicitors asked the solicitors to Mr. Stephens to furnish them particulars, but these were never forthcoming. It was quite usual for letters to come to him addressed 249 and 249½. In order to get to his address 249 it was necessary to go through a doorway numbered 249½. The correspondence with Mrs. Butler took place in July, 1891, but the letter received from her was included in the search-warrant put into execution this year. In January of this year he had in his possession no communication from Mrs.

Bntler, except a letter of his own which was returned with an endorsement by her. Up to the time plaintiff was in custody he never heard any suggestion that Mr. Stephens's letter-box had been broken open. Notices cautioning people against plaintiff had on a number of occasions been posted about the corridor leading to Dr. Hair's office. One of the libels plaintiff complained of in the civil action was a notice stuck up in the corridor saying that on four occasions a person in the employ of the Geddes Manufacturing Company had maliciously obliterated Dr. Hair's name with a thick coating of black paint. That was not true, and plaintiff got damages against Stephens for the libel, and there was an injunction against him to prevent him repeating it. Plaintiff positively denied that either he or his wife had ever abstracted letters from Dr. Hair's letter-box. Plaintiff had never burned any books which were not waste-paper, for the purpose of getting rid of them.

In answer to a question put by Mr. Lockwood, plaintiff said he once opened a registered letter addressed to "The Manager, 249½ High Holborn." He did so in the presence of the postman, as the postman thought it was intended for the Geddes Manufacturing Company. Finding the letter intended for Dr. Hair, it was returned.

Mr. William Thomas Bozdel, solicitor, said that in the action of Hair v. Geddes in the Chancery Division he acted for the plaintiff, and did so up to the time of judgment. He was asked who was his client.

The Lord Chief Justice said the witness could only answer as attorney to his client, and he was bound not to answer. There should be perfect privilege between attorney and client.

Mrs. Ella Mary Geddes, examined by Mr. Avory, said she was the wife of the plaintiff. She assisted in the business of the Geddes Manufacturing Company, and had done so for many years. She was also cashier to the Vogeler Company. On Saturday, January 2, she came home with her husband, and remembered the girl bringing up the letters on Monday morning. In the evening two opened letters were brought by the girl addressed to Dr. Hair. They had been placed in the Geddes office post-box. It was certainly not true witness or her husband had tampered with the letters or opened them by means of steam. Next morning the two letters were taken to the Farringdon Road place of business, and on the arrival of Inspector Marshall she assisted him and his officers in looking through the papers. At the trial Mr. Stephens said he had seen her with a book under her arm which belonged to Dr. Hair. There was not a word of truth in that.

In cross-examination by Mr. Lockwood, witness admitted having been the better-half of the Geddes Manufacturing Company since about 1875. (Laughter.) The business address of the company was 249 High Holborn. Confronted with a bill-heading of the firm, she said the address on it was 249½. That was put on by Ormsby.

Didn't you get rid of the "½" when the landlord of the premises forbade Ormsby to use the address "249½"?—Certainly not. She remembered offensive libels about her husband being stuck up in the passage. They were painted over, but she had no idea who did this. Letters to Dr. Hair were occasionally delivered in the Geddes letter-box, but never open, with the exception of those mentioned. On the Monday night when the two letters were found, witness and her husband and Miss Pillow and Miss Glover slept on the premises.

Re-examined by Sir Edward Clarke, Mrs. Geddes said it was very rare Dr. Hair's letters were left in the Geddes box. On no occasion had a letter addressed to Dr. Hair been opened by Mr. Geddes and detained.

Miss Lily Peacock, in the employ of the Geddes Manufacturing Company, said it was her duty at about half past 8 in a morning to get the letters out of the office and take them up to Mr. Geddes's residence. On Monday, January 4 last, she did this. Amongst the letters was one opened and addressed to Dr. Hair. She called the attention of Mr. and Mrs. Geddes to this, and they immediately gave instructions to Miss Glover to take the letter to Dr. Hair's premises. Cross-examined, witness said she had no instructions as to letters addressed "249" and "249½." Letters addressed "The Manager, 249½ High Holborn," would be dealt with by Mr. Geddes.

Miss Honor Glover, in the employ of the Geddes Manufacturing Company, and who lives with Mr. and Mrs. Geddes,

said that on Saturday evening, January 2, she locked the office. She recollected Miss Peacock bringing up an open letter on the Monday morning, and by Mr. Geddes's instructions witness took it into Mr. Stephens's office. Mr. Stephens's son was there, and she called his attention to the fact that it was opened. The same evening witness found about a dozen letters in the Geddes office letter-box. Amongst them two were cut open. Next morning, when Mr. and Mrs. Geddes had gone to Farringdon Road, some police officers came to High Holborn.

The witness had not concluded her evidence when the Court rose.

On Saturday Miss Glover was further examined. She detailed how on January 5 Inspector Marshall and other officers came to search the premises. She told them that if they were looking for two letters addressed to Dr. Hair, which had come the previous evening, they had been taken by Mr. and Mrs. Geddes to Vogeler & Co.'s, in Farringdon Road. In cross-examination under Mr. Scrutton witness denied any knowledge of the letter-box at Mr. Stephens's office having been broken open. She opened the letters which came to the Geddes Manufacturing Company, but, of course, if they were for Dr. Hair they would not be opened. Although 249½ High Holborn was not the Geddes address, she would, however, have opened a letter addressed "The Manager, 249½ High Holborn." Re-examined by Mr. Avory, Miss Glover was quite certain she had never opened letters for Dr. Hair & Son. She had herself taken letters to Hair's office which by mistake had been put in the Geddes letter-box. Very often letters addressed to Mr. Geddes were marked "249½ High Holborn."

Miss Louisa Ball, a clerk in the service of Mr. Geddes, deposed to the locking-up of the office on Monday night, January 4.

Miss Marian Pillow, secretary to Mr. Geddes, was called to prove that when Miss Glover brought the two letters up on the Monday night they were cut open. Cross-examined, witness said she remembered the 10,000 Ormsby pamphlets being ordered. At that time the Geddes Manufacturing Company had not a list of 10,000 asthmatics. She was shown a letter written to her by Mr. Geddes, saying they had a list of 10,000 asthmatics. In explanation, she said that list was taken from the Vogeler Company's books. The Vogeler Company dealt in St. Jacobs oil, and she admitted that had nothing to do with asthma-cure. She denied that the 10,000 names consisted of two lots of 6,000 and 4,000 got from Ormsby, who had copied them out of Dr. Hair's book. It was not true that she had burnt, in the presence of Miss Butler, a book which belonged to Dr. Hair, and she had never, along with Miss Butler, torn up a large number of letters addressed to Dr. B. W. Hair & Son.

Mr. Henry Marshall, inspector of the Criminal Investigation Department at Bow Street, produced the warrants to search Mr. Geddes's premises. He gave some details of the search, and repeated what Miss Glover had said to him—that the letters had been taken to Farringdon Road by Mr. Geddes. Witness went immediately to Vogeler & Co.'s place and read the warrant to Mr. Geddes. He said he had in his possession two letters addressed to Dr. Hair & Son. Mr. Geddes said that was so, but he would not give them up until he had consulted his solicitor, as he believed there had been a trick. On the arrival of a gentleman from his solicitor's office he gave up the letters on his advice. Some of the letters mentioned in the list supplied by Mr. Stephens were found. Others were said by Mr. Geddes to be in the possession of his solicitor.

Sir E. Clarke: What things belonging to Dr. Hair did you find at either High Holborn or Farringdon Road, which were alleged to have been stolen?

Witness: Only the two letters which Mr. Geddes admitted he had in his possession. He, however, seized other things which were selected by Mr. Stephens as relating to correspondence alleged to have been stolen. On the Tuesday morning witness took Mr. Geddes in custody. The solicitor and Mr. Geddes asked that he should be taken before a magistrate at once so that he could get bail. The magistrate sat till 5 o'clock, but the search was not concluded by then, so that was not done. One of the letters said to have been wrongly delivered to Mr. Geddes was from a Von Briuer, of Hamburg. He understood that was a real letter, and not one made up by Mr. Stephens. Mr. Geddes was taken to

Bow Street at about 8 o'clock, and later on Mr. Stephens came with his son and made the charge of theft. Witness kept the documents seized in his possession till they were laid before a magistrate the next morning. The magistrate gave orders they were not to leave the custody of the police, but the solicitors on both sides were to be allowed access to them. Amongst the things seized were two address-books of the Geddes Manufacturing Company. When the search was being made Mr. Stephens did not mention that the two letters given up had been manufactured by himself. That came out at Bow Street.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lockwood, witness said it was not usual for the prosecutor to be present when a search-warrant was being executed, but Mr. Stephens's presence was necessary on this occasion. There was no wilful delay in taking Mr. Geddes before a magistrate. Witness acted on his own authority; all he had Mr. Stephens present for was to point out to him what he alleged to have some connection with documents which had been stolen. At High Holborn he examined the letter-box of Dr. Hair & Son, and there was evidence of its having been tampered with. Mr. Stephens said letters had been stolen, so that he had to alter the box. Then it was broken so that the letters fell on the floor and were drawn out from under the door, and this necessitated his putting a piece of gutta-percha along the bottom of the door. In re-examination witness said that but for the list supplied by Mr. Stephens he would have searched only for letters addressed "Dr. W. B. Hair & Son," and of those he found none.

Mr. A. Fordham, clerk to Mr. McKenna, solicitor to the plaintiff, gave some particulars of the hearing before the magistrate.

Alfred Edwin Cornell, postman, was shown the two letters found in the Geddes letter-box on the Monday evening, and said he could tell by the postmark he delivered them by the first delivery in the morning. He had no independent recollection of the letters, but, looking at the addresses, he felt sure he delivered them as they were addressed, in the Dr. Hair letter-box. Prior to that he had received special instructions from the Post Office about being careful in the delivery of letters to Mr. Geddes. Witness had been in the habit of delivering letters at the building for three years. Letters for Dr. Hair sometimes came addressed "249½ High Holborn." Letters for other persons in the building sometimes came similarly addressed. Letters to the Geddes Manufacturing Company were sometimes addressed "249½." The registered letter produced, addressed to "The Manager, 249½ High Holborn," was opened by Mr. Geddes at witness's request, to see if it belonged to him. It did not.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lockwood, witness said the address of Mr. Geddes was "249½ High Holborn," although letters came to him addressed "249." If a letter came to "The Manager, 249½," he would use his discretion as to whom it should be delivered to. He was sure he had not made a mistake in delivering a letter intended for Dr. Hair to Mr. Geddes.

The Lord Chief Justice expressed doubt how the witness could be so sure he never made a mistake in giving the letters to the wrong person when there were two managers at 249½ High Holborn.

This closed the case for the plaintiff, and the Court rose.

The case on behalf of the defendant was opened on Monday morning, when Mr. Lockwood observed that the question he had to address himself to was to show reasonable and probable cause for the action taken by Mr. Stephens.

Mr. Avory submitted that upon the issue of false imprisonment his learned friend would have to show a felony was committed.

The Lord Chief Justice said that of course the learned Queen's Counsel would have to show reasonable cause that Mr. Stephens believed Mr. Geddes had committed a felony.

Mr. Lockwood said Sir Edward Clarke, acting on his instructions, had made a very determined attack on the character of Mr. Stephens. If he had been guilty of the fraudulent and despicable conduct laid to his charge, Mr. Stephens should have been displayed in his true colours, but he submitted that Sir Edward had been under an entire misapprehension. As to the facts, Dr. Hair had carried on a business of selling asthma-cure in High Holborn. Dr. Hair resided in America, but his son was in this country, although

the management was practically carried on by Mr. Ormsby. Mr. Stephens purchased the business with the intention of handing it over to his son. Of course, he used the name of Hair, as he was entitled to do, and there was no truth in the assertion that Mr. Stephens had been forbidden to use the name of Hair & Son. Ormsby, who had carried on the concern, was known to a great many customers. When Mr. Stephens became the owner of the business Ormsby became very objectionable, and, in 1888, had to be got rid of. Up to this time the Geddes Manufacturing Company had not been heard of in England. But, Ormsby being dismissed, an opportunity occurred. Mr. and Mrs. Geddes resided at 249½ High Holborn, and communications took place between Mr. Geddes and Mr. Ormsby. Ormsby having been secured, Mr. Geddes took a room on the floor on which were the offices of Dr. Hair, and then the Geddes Manufacturing Company, with Mr. Ormsby as manager, was announced to the world. Both firms sold asthma-cures. Mr. Stephens naturally came to the conclusion that the intention was to divert Dr. Hair's custom to Mr. Geddes. That was undoubtedly a smart piece of business. (Laughter.) Mr. Geddes had said he wanted to avoid getting Dr. Hair's customers. Well, to the mind of the learned counsel, he had adopted a most peculiar method. Were the jury likely to believe that it was not the intention of Geddes to bring the two businesses together? It was not long before what was expected happened. Letters addressed to Mr. Ormsby, and ordering Dr. Hair's asthma-cure, naturally found their way next door. Mr. Stephens got complaints from all parts of the country of orders not executed and that medicine other than that ordered had been sent. In Hair's office were two books, one containing 6,000 names, and in another 4,000 letters of persons who had taken Dr. Hair's asthma-cure. Through Ormsby these books found their way into the office of the Geddes Manufacturing Company. That was the conclusion Mr. Stephens arrived at when he saw the unscrupulous way in which Mr. Geddes had availed himself of a dismissed manager, and located his place of business in the same house, on the same landing, and next door. Mr. Stephens could do no other than bring an action against Mr. Geddes. That trial came before Mr. Justice Kekewich, and Ormsby's evidence went to show he had been bribed by Mr. Geddes. The action was decided against Dr. Hair & Son. After that the condition of things, of which Mr. Stephens had to complain, became more intolerable. He believed letters intended for him were being taken wholesale by the Geddes Manufacturing Company. The business hours of the Geddes Manufacturing Company overlapped by half an hour those of Dr. Hair & Son, and the whole of the Geddes Manufacturing Company lived on the premises. (Laughter.) On three occasions Mr. Stephens found the letter-box had been tampered with. In addition to that, somebody had on several occasions obliterated with a liberal supply of black paint the name of Dr. Hair & Son. Mr. and Mrs. Geddes had tried to limit the black paint to the marking-out of libels upon themselves, but they did not know who did this. What conclusion could anybody arrive at but that the Geddes Manufacturing Company had something to do with it? This sort of thing was happening constantly. Mr. Stephens consulted a solicitor, and explained how his business was being injured. On his suggestion, it was decided to send test-letters to see if they found their way to Mr. Geddes. Five in all were sent. A letter from Mr. von Brüner arrived, and, it not being sealed down, Mr. Stephens decided to use the envelope for test purposes. He had a German letter written, and in the afternoon of Saturday, January 2, he put it into his own letter box. Of the five test-letters three arrived afterwards, two did not arrive at all. Mr. Stephens was convinced these letters were being taken by Mr. Geddes, and accordingly, after advice from Mr. Wontner, a search-warrant was obtained. The assertion that Mr. Stephens had deliberately prolonged the examination to prevent Mr. Geddes being taken before a magistrate on the day the warrant was executed was entirely without foundation. There was the most thorough search because Mr. Stephens believed there had been a conspiracy to deprive him of his business. One or two books were taken, but during the hearing of the case both sides had access to them. Amongst them was Mr. Geddes's letter-book, and a good deal had been made by the other side of Mr. Stephens incorporating in the copy of a letter the words "as privately arranged from the formula of Hair & Son."

The explanation of that was simple. The letter was being dictated to a shorthand clerk by Mr. Stephens, and he believed then and now that he mentioned the words as an aside, not intending they should be inserted in the letter. Anything more insane than to have incorporated the sentence in the letter, which might be detected at once, could not be imagined. At Bow Street, as Mr. Wontner was prevented, owing to the decision of Mr. Justice Kekewich, from going into the whole of the facts, he withdrew the prosecution. The other side had pointed to the indignity inflicted by a search not only being made at High Holborn, but also at the premises of Vogeler & Co., dealers in St. Jacobs oil, 45 Farringdon Road. That was justified by the books being found at Farringdon Road, where also were the tanks for the manufacturing of the asthma-cure. The learned counsel proceeded to argue that the relationship between Mr. Geddes and Mr. Ormsby was not that of master and servant, but a scheme entered into between these two men to reap the reward of years of advertisement by Dr. Hair & Son. Not only did Mr. Geddes get the same address at High Holborn down to a very fraction as Dr. Hair, but the same formula was used, and a circular similar to that of Dr. Hair was sent out. At some length Mr. Lockwood reviewed the evidence he proposed to adduce for the defence. He laid stress upon the point that Mr. Geddes had communicated with persons who, in the first instance, had written to Dr. Hair & Son. He hoped to be able to prove that Mr. Stephens was justified in the action he took against Mr. Geddes in the early part of this year.

The defendant went into the box and was examined by Mr. Scrutton. He narrated the history of his grievances against the plaintiff as already described by his counsel. Before the Chancery trial Ormsby, he said, made a statement in his presence before a solicitor. He said he had united with Geddes to make the asthma-cure; that he had Dr. Hair's book of names copied by a Mr. Fraser, who left the book and the copies at 45 Farringdon Road, and that some bundles had been handed over to Mr. Geddes. Ormsby further said he instructed a solicitor to apply to Geddes for the return of the book, and sent a friend named Collins, but without success. Witness subsequently saw Mr. Fraser and Mr. Collins, who both confirmed Ormsby's statement. In April or May, 1889, a plumber named Coleman told witness that he was called to clear a closet-pipe in Mr. Geddes's residence, and he found it blocked with letters addressed to Dr. Hair and Mr. Ormsby. During the last six months of 1891 the firm of Dr. Hair & Son had at least two hundred oral complaints about the non-execution of orders and wrong medicine being delivered. He bore out what his counsel had said about the Von Brüner letter. When he placed it in his letter-box on the Saturday it was closed; but when Mr. Geddes's assistant brought it to him on the Monday morning it was opened. Of five other test-letters he had sent to himself two never reached him. It was not true that he himself placed letters in the Geddes letter-box. Witness denied that he took any part in executing the search-warrant. He was present at the request of Inspector Marshall. As to the sentence incorporated in the letter of Mr. Geddes, that arose out of a mistake. The shorthand writer had included some words witness addressed to Mr. Wontner. A Miss Butler, formerly in the employ of Vogeler & Co., told witness that she and a Miss Longworth had something to do with copying names out of a book belonging to Dr. Hair & Son for Mr. Geddes. Miss Longworth, on being asked how many wrappers she had addressed, said there were thousands. Miss Butler told witness she had taken part in the tearing-up of thousands of letters addressed to Hair & Son and to Ormsby. She said they were all torn up at Farringdon Road and periodically disposed of. Further, she said she had seen the destruction of the book of names by burning.

In cross-examination by Sir E. Clarke, witness said he purchased two-thirds of the interest in the firm of Dr. Hair & Son in May, 1888, from the son. Ormsby was to be manager, but Mr. J. W. Hair dismissed him. In December, 1888, the whole of the business was assigned to witness, but he declined to receive it. As far as he could remember, the assignment had been sent back. Afterwards witness went to America to see Dr. Hair. When the action of Hair & Son v. Geddes went against the former, and an execution was put in at High Holborn, witness claimed everything, because by that time he had become sole proprietor. It was not true

that witness had the active conduct of the case of Hair v. Geddes.

At this stage the Court rose.

When Mr. Stephens went into the box on Tuesday morning he produced a letter from Dr. B. W. Hair, saying he would give witness all the assistance he could in counteracting the influence of Ormsby and the Geddes Manufacturing Company. He was then cross-examined by Sir E. Clarke. He said there was a letter from Dr. Hair authorising him to use the name of Dr. Hair & Son, but it was not in his possession.

Do you say that Mr. Geddes took letters that were intended for you?—I say that letters addressed to Mr. Ormsby, and intended for Dr. Hair & Son, found their way to the Geddes Manufacturing Company. I wrote to them demanding they should give up several letters.

There is a letter from a Mrs. Lane. Do you mean that Mr. Geddes stole it?—I mean he appropriated it.

Do you mean dishonestly appropriated it?—Yes.

Was that the letter which the Post Office official found addressed "Manager, 249½ High Holborn," and took to Mr. Geddes, asking him to open it, and then, on its being found it was not for him, brought it to you?—Yes; but it had been in Mr. Geddes's possession for two hours before it was brought to me.

Is it true that a person in your employ got the names of Mr. Geddes's customers from parcels sent out by the Geddes Manufacturing Company?—I became acquainted with a different state of facts.

You have in your book of addresses the names of two persons—Cockshead and Naylor?—I cannot say.

Don't you know that a parcel was sent out by Mr. Geddes purposely addressed to a Mr. Cockshead, instead of to Mr. Cockshead, in order to see who copied the names?—No.

Don't you know it was wrongly addressed to Belle Alliance Square, whereas the real address is La Belle Alliance Square, and that in your book you have the name as it was wrongly spelt and addressed?—No.

Don't you know there is no such person as Naylor?—No.

Where did you get Cockshead's address?—I have no means of knowing.

I suggest that you or a person in your employ got the names from parcels sent out by Mr. Geddes.—Your suggestion is incorrect.

You sent pamphlets to these persons. How did you get the addresses?—We must have had applications from them for pamphlets. We have thousands of applications.

Witness admitted that he had sent out circulars warning people against the Geddes cure, about which he had received complaints of its doing people harm because it contained arsenic and bromide. He sent such a circular to a Mr. Batey, but he did not know there was no such person. As to the black paint, Mrs. Press, formerly an employée with Mr. Geddes, had confessed that she had daubed it on his walls. Witness swore emphatically that he did not himself put the Von Brüner letter in Mr. Geddes's letter-box. He had been told by two of Mr. Geddes's employes that hundreds of letters were being obtained by Mr. Geddes which were intended for Dr. Hair & Son. Witness denied that he got addresses of customers of Mr. Geddes from Mr. Geddes's address-book, and that he sent them libellous pamphlets. He believed that Geddes got these people to write for pamphlets so that he might charge him (witness) with having got the names from his book. Witness denied that an injunction was ever granted against his selling Dr. Spencer's asthma-cure. It was granted against J. W. Hair. He admitted, however, that his firm had sold Dr. Spencer's asthma-cure. He still held to his explanation that the sentence incorporated in the copied letter out of Mr. Geddes's letter-book was the result of an accident, the shorthand-writer inserting a remark which he addressed to Mr. Wontner. It was from this letter-book he learnt that Mr. Devries, of America, was the chief partner of Charles Vogeler & Co., and he wrote to him complaining of Mr. Geddes's conduct in appropriating letters, and stating that the asthma-cure was made at 45 Farringdon Road, and that Vogeler's vans were used by the Geddes Manufacturing Company. He got the names of the parties to whom he wrote from Mr. Geddes's letter-book.

What right had you to read through a private letter-book?—Some of the names I saw were familiar to me; they were the names of our customers.

The Lord Chief Justice (to witness): Why don't you face it like a man? You thought you had got Mr. Geddes on the hip for stealing the letters, and that you were justified in doing what you could to retaliate for the injury done you, as you considered?—Oh, yes, my lord.

Mr. Stephens was re examined by Mr. Scrutton.

The Lord Chief Justice observed that the explanation of Mr. Stephens about what he said to Mr. Wontner during the dictating of the letter did not coincide with the interpolated sentence, which read on intelligibly.

Mr. J. P. Fraser, a traveller, said Mr. Ormsby gave him 2,400 letters to copy names and addresses from. They had been sent to Dr. Hair & Son and Mr. Ormsby. Subsequently witness copied a large number of names and addresses out of one book into another. These he delivered to Mr. Geddes. In cross-examination, witness said the name of Dr. Hair was not on the books; on one was the word "patients," and on the other "asthmatics."

At this point the further hearing of the case was adjourned till Friday.

EXCISE PROSECUTION OF A CARDIFF DRUG DEALER.

At the Cardiff Police Court on December 9, before Mr. T. W. Lewis (stipendiary) and Dr. Paine, Mr. William Frederick Lloyd Smith, described as a chemist and druggist (but not on the register), of Tudor Road, was summoned for three offences against the Excise laws concerning the sale of medicine and tobacco.

Mr. B. Hawkins, from the Solicitors' Department, Somerset House, who prosecuted, stated that the defendant was charged with having sold tobacco without a licence on October 17, with having sold a medicine without a proper stamp on the same date, and with having sold a medicine without licence on October 22. For some time, Mr. Hawkins said, bottles of a medicine called "Thorasine" had been exposed for sale in the defendant's window. An Inland Revenue officer called at the shop on October 17, and purchased a bottle of this thorasine, which was a medicine liable to stamp duty, but was unstamped. On October 22 the officer called again at the defendant's shop, and purchased some balsam of horehound that was duly stamped, but which the defendant was selling without having any licence authorising the sale of patent medicines. Defendant was afterwards called upon for an explanation, and with reference to the medicine licence he stated that he was in partnership with his father, who held a licence for Bristol, and he thought that was sufficient. It was, however, pointed out to him that a licence for Bristol would not cover a sale at Cardiff. Defendant afterwards stated that the partnership with his father was dissolved, and that he knew a licence was required, but he had omitted to take one out. Defendant also stated that he first commenced selling this medicine in July last. A medicine licence expired at the end of August, and though the defendant had since taken out a licence which would cover his sales from September 1 last until September 1 next year, the sales which took place in July were not covered by any licence, and it was now too late for defendant to take out any licence for last year. With reference to the medicine which was sold without a stamp, the defendant stated that this was a bottle which had been taken from the window by mistake, and accidentally sold without a stamp—that he usually did stamp the bottles. Mr. Hawkins, however, pointed out to the Bench that the medicine exposed in his window should have been stamped equally with that for sale in the shop, and therefore that would be no excuse on his part. Although the duty upon the medicine was a very small amount— $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per bottle—it appeared that this thorasine which was purchased unstamped was one of the chief articles which defendant sold. His shop was called the "Thorasine Drug Company's Stores," and he advertised this medicine particularly as one of the most valuable remedies he sold. The sale of it had been going on, according to his own statement, for four months, so that, unless this was an isolated instance, there had probably been a considerable loss to the Revenue. With regard to the sale of tobacco, defendant gave no explanation whatever.

The Stipendiary: How was the detection of the sale of the tobacco made?

Mr. Hawkins: The officer purchased a cigar on each occasion he visited the shop.

Mr. Belcher, who represented the defendant, said he was prepared, subject to certain mitigating circumstances, to admit the offences. Defendant had only been in business for five months, and was under the impression that these duties would be called for by an officer of the Inland Revenue, in the same way that rates and taxes were applied for. That was his genuine and honest belief, and that was the reason why he did not take out these licences.

The Stipendiary: Does that apply to the tobacco licence also?

Mr. Belcher said it did. As to the sale of the thorasine, he thought there were mitigating circumstances. The unstamped bottles were exclusively in the window, and they were unstamped because the medicine, through being exposed to the sun in the window, was likely to deteriorate, and the medicine so exposed was, as a rule, not sold. The article sold was usually kept in the shop, and was stamped. That appeared to him (Mr. Belcher) to be a reasonable excuse, and it was borne out by the circumstance that the defendant had not sought to conceal the fact that he was selling it. On the contrary, he advertised it, setting forth its virtues, and on the label there were these words: "See that each bottle is properly secured with the Government stamp before opening." That would, no doubt, bear on the Stipendiary's mind in considering the penalty to be imposed—namely, that there was no attempt whatever on the part of the defendant wilfully, knowingly, or designedly to sell any bottle unstamped. Defendant had only been in business five months, he had a wife and two children, the eldest of whom was only fourteen months old, and the youngest six weeks. If a very heavy penalty were inflicted it would be absolutely ruinous to him, as he was a man of comparatively small means.

At the request of the Stipendiary, the officer who laid the information was called, and, in reply to the Bench, stated that the bottle of thorasine sold to him was taken from off the counter. There were other bottles on the counter, but he could not tell if they were stamped, as all were in wrappers. There were two or three boxes of cigars on the counter, ticketed 2d. and 3d. He asked the defendant if he sold tobacco, and he replied, "No; but I can sell you a good cigar."

The Stipendiary said for selling the thorasine without a stamp the defendant would be fined 20s. and costs, or, in default of distress, one month's imprisonment. For the sale of the medicine on October 22 without a licence he would be fined a similar penalty, or, in default, one month's imprisonment. And for the sale of the tobacco on October 17 he would be fined 5s. and costs, or, in default of distress, one month's imprisonment; the three terms of imprisonment to be concurrent.

Mr. Belcher asked the Bench if they would allow the defendant time in which to pay the penalties?

The Stipendiary said he had no doubt that the Inland Revenue authorities would not press him hardily.

Mr. Hawkins said he did not suppose that any application would be made for a distress warrant just at present. Some days must elapse before that would be done, and he had no doubt that the authorities would consider any application that might be made to them.

CAKE SAFFRON AND THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The Pontefract Justices on Saturday heard an important prosecution by the County Council under the Food and Drugs Act. Mr. H. S. McHugh, druggist, Castleford, was charged with selling cake saffron not of the nature and substance demanded by the purchaser. Mr. Edwards, West Riding solicitor, prosecuted, and Mr. Scholefield (Messrs. Scholefield & Poppleton) defended. The case was the first of the kind taken in the county. The evidence of Mr. Allen, of Sheffield, the county analyst, went to show that the samples of cake saffron purchased from the defendant contained 75 per cent. of sugar and 25 per cent. of safflower. He, however, stated that the article sold in this case was what was termed cake saffron in the trade. Mr. Scholefield took a preliminary objection to the summons, as it did not define the particulars of the alleged offence. The Bench over-ruled the objection, and consented to state a case on the point. At a later stage in the case, however, Mr. Edwards expressed

the opinion that Mr. Scholefield's objection was fatal to the case, and he asked to withdraw the summons. The Bench consented, and allowed the defendant costs and solicitor's fee.

"A REASONABLE TIME" UNDER THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

At the Stamford Borough Petty Sessions, on December 3, Mr. Silas Robinson, druggist, of St. Mary's Street, Stamford, was summoned, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, for having sold, on September 12, a quantity of tincture of rhubarb which was alleged to be deficient in the extractives of rhubarb and saffron. Mr. Atter (the Town Clerk) appeared for Mr. Robinson.

The purchase was proved by Police-sergeant Dain, who said he was acting on the instructions of Inspector Clarke. He was served by a youth named Fancourt with 6 oz. of tincture of rhubarb, for which he paid 1s. 6d. He then handed to Fancourt a notice informing him that the tincture was to be analysed. Inspector Clarke came into the shop at that moment, and witness handed the bottle to him.

Inspector Clarke, having confirmed this evidence, was about to produce a copy of the notice, when Mr. Atter objected, first on the ground that the inspector was not the purchaser, and secondly on the ground that no document is evidence until notice to produce the original has been given to the accused person.

The Magistrates thereupon adjourned the case for a week, in order to give the inspector an opportunity of calling upon the defendant to produce the original notice. On Mr. Atter's application they allowed the solicitor's fee.

On December 10 the case again came before the Bench, consisting of the Mayor and two other magistrates. Mr. Frederick Dickison, J.P., a chemist, was in court, but did not sit on the Bench during the hearing of this case.

Mr. James A. Langley, a local solicitor, now appeared on behalf of the prosecution, and Mr. Atter again defended.

Police-sergeant Dain, having repeated his evidence, Mr. Langley called upon Mr. Atter to produce the printed notice served by the sergeant upon the assistant.

Mr. Atter thereupon produced the notice, which was to the effect that the articles purchased would be submitted to the public analyst. Mr. Atter pointed out that "articles" were not purchased, but only one article. On this ground he objected that the notice was not good.

The Magistrates over-ruled the objection.

Inspector Clarke then gave evidence. He divided the tincture purchased into three parts and sealed them. One part he sent to the county analyst (Mr. Charles E. Cassell). The certificate of the analyst (produced) was to the effect that the tincture was deficient in the extractives of rhubarb and saffron to the extent of at least 40 per cent. as compared with the tincture sold at the Apothecaries' Hall.

Mr. Atter submitted that proceedings were taken too late. The alleged offence was committed on September 12, and the summons was not taken out until November 25. The Act stated that the proceedings should be taken "within a reasonable time."

Mr. Langley said that it was imperative that the certificate of the public analyst should be received before any proceedings were taken. Mr. Cassell's certificate in this case was not received until Saturday, November 19. There had been no unnecessary delay on the part of the prosecution.

The Magistrates, after consulting, decided to dismiss the case. The Mayor said they considered that the proceedings were not taken within a reasonable time.

Mr. Langley: Within a reasonable time of what?

The Mayor: There has been a great deal of delay.

Mr. Langley: By whom?

The Mayor: By the public analyst.

Mr. Atter submitted that the magistrates ought not to be cross-examined in this way by Mr. Langley.

Mr. Langley asked for a case to be stated if the prosecution should be advised to appeal.

The Mayor said they could not state a case, as their decision had been come to on facts and not on a point of law. They could not say but what the bottle might have been uncorked for some time.

Mr. Langley then asked the Bench to grant a certificate of refusal to state a case, and the application was granted.

REFUSING TO SELL UNDER THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

At Coventry, on Monday, Ernest Bailey, who described himself as a drug and patent-medicine store, Silver Street, Coventry, was summoned for refusing to sell to William Henry Clarke, inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, some compound tincture of camphor exposed for sale, and demanded for the purpose of analysis.

Mr. Beard (Assistant Town Clerk) prosecuted on behalf of the Sanitary Authority, and Mr. M. Wilks defended.

The inspector stated that on November 21 he went into the defendant's shop and asked for two-pennyworth of camphor. Defendant said he did not keep it, and told him it could be obtained at Mr. Welton's, a chemist, on the other side of the road. Witness saw a bottle on one of the shelves, labelled "Tr. Camph. Co.," and containing some pale-brown looking fluid, resembling compound tincture of camphor. He then asked to be served with half-a-crown's worth out of the bottle, but defendant refused. Witness told him he wanted it in his official capacity, and warned defendant of the serious consequences of refusing. As defendant still declined, witness went outside to call in some person to corroborate the demand, and obtained the services of a constable. The defendant, who had removed the bottle from the shelf and taken it away, still declined to serve him, saying he dare not sell it. In cross-examination, witness said he thought there was no sign up describing Mr. Bailey as a chemist, but that his shop was called a drug and patent-medicine store. He saw the bottle as he walked into the shop, and did not have to crane his neck round a screen to see it.

Mr. Wilks: Did you know that Mr. Bailey was not a duly qualified chemist?—Witness: I had no reason to know.

Do you know that Mr. Bailey is forbidden by law to sell this tincture of camphor?—He is if he is not a qualified chemist.

Do you know he is not a qualified chemist?—I do now.

Did he not say he was forbidden by law to sell it?—He said he dare not sell it.

Mr. Wilks, in defence, submitted that the defendant had kept some bottles left him as part of the stock by his father, who had been a qualified chemist, and, having emptied them of the drugs he, as a non-qualified chemist was not permitted to sell, had filled them with coloured water for the purpose of helping to fill up the shelves and make a respectable show. He contended that as defendant had no compound tincture of camphor in his possession, he could not sell it. He called the defendant, who swore to the facts stated, and added that he removed the bottle because he did not want it to pass into the hands of the inspector, who might charge him with offering the coloured water for sale as compound tincture of camphor. He would have supplied the inspector with some of the contents of the bottle if he would have allowed him to label it "coloured water."

The bottle was produced, and, upon the inspector saying it contained a fluid of a different colour to that he saw in the defendant's shop, Mr. Wilks called the defendant's assistant, who swore that the contents were the same. He admitted, however, in cross-examination, that the bottle had been off the shelf a day since the inspector called.

The Bench told the defendant he had only himself to thank for the position he was in, as his action in removing the bottle gave rise to suspicion. The case would be dismissed, but they hoped he would be more careful in future, as, if he had told the inspector what the bottle contained, the prosecution would probably not have been instituted. Mr. Wilks informed the Bench that the defendant had undertaken to destroy all the bottles marked with the names of drugs he was not qualified to sell.

POTASH-FORMING INSECTS.—At a recent meeting of the Entomological Society, Mr. Oswald Latter stated that the imago of the *Dicranura vinula*, in emerging from the cocoon, produces, probably from the mouth, a solution of caustic potash for the purpose of softening the cocoon. The solution was obtained for analysis by causing the moths to perforate artificial cocoons made of filter-paper. Professor Meldola, F.R.S., said that the larva of *D. vinula* secretes formic acid, but the fact that any animal secreted a strong caustic alkali was a new one.

GROCERS AND POISONOUS PROPRIETARY MEDICINES.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OBTAINS JUDGMENT IN THE COUNTY COURT.

At the Bloomsbury County Court, on Wednesday last, before his Honour Judge Bacon, the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain sued Manrice Piper & Co., of Warwick Street, Pimlico, grocers; Messrs. Mortimer & Co., of Fulham, grocers; T. W. Howes, High Street, Camden Town, grocer; and H. Clifford, Stroud Green Road, grocer, for a penalty of 5*l.* each "for keeping open shop for the retailing and dispensing or compounding of an article called 'chlorodyne' which contained the poisons—to wit, opium or a preparation of opium and chloroform, or one of the said poisons, contrary to the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, 1868 (31 & 32 Vic. cap. 121)."

Mr. Grey, instructed by Messrs. Flux, Son & Co., appeared for the plaintiff Society, and Mr. H. D. Boncey, instructed by Messrs. Neve & Beck, appeared for the defence. The case of the Pharmaceutical Society *v.* Piper was proceeded with.

Mr. Grey said the Pharmaceutical Society were suing Messrs. Piper & Co. for a penalty of 5*l.* under the 15th section of the Pharmacy Act, 1868. In consequence of information given to the Society concerning the deaths of children and others caused by chlorodyne through misadventure, the Society had thought it necessary to take proceedings.

His Honour: Has not this been the subject of a case before a metropolitan police magistrate?

Mr. Grey: Yes. It was decided by Mr. Lushington.

Mr. Boncey: But under a different section.

Mr. Grey: Under a different section, but it decided points to which I will draw your attention. There Mr. Lushington decided that chlorodyne was a poison within the Pharmacy Act, 1868. The facts of the present case were these: On October 15 Mr. Moon went to 20 Warwick Street, Pimlico, a grocer's shop belonging to the defendants, and there he asked for a bottle of Dr. Collis Browne's chlorodyne, and that chlorodyne was purchased by him for the sum of 9*½d.* He handed it to Dr. Paul, who analysed it, and it would be proved by Dr. Paul that it contained a poison within the schedule of the Act he had quoted. It would be only for him to prove, first, that the defendant kept open shop for the retailing or dispensing of this chlorodyne; secondly, that chlorodyne was a poison within the meaning of the Act; and, thirdly, that the defendant was not registered under that Act.

Mr. Boncey: We do not admit that chlorodyne is a poison.

His Honour: Has not a police magistrate decided that it is subject to penalties for not having a label on it?

Mr. Boncey: It was decided in April last that it required to be labelled "Poison."

His Honour: He could not have arrived at that unless he decided it was a poison.

Mr. Boncey: Certainly he decided it was a poison.

His Honour: I gather that all the facts are admitted except the fact of this being a poison. Is that so?

Mr. Boncey: We admit that we are not registered, but we are licensed to sell medicines.

His Honour: What is that? You are licensed to sell medicines?

Mr. Boncey: Yes; but not poisons. By the Act only a chemist and druggist can sell a poison. The defendant kept a grocer's shop and sold chlorodyne, but he did not admit that it was a poison within the Act. Another question was whether it was a patent medicine. If so, he had a right to sell it.

His Honour: All those points were raised before the police magistrate, and have been decided.

Mr. Boncey: The question as to patent medicines was never gone into before the magistrate.

His Honour: Surely it was. Discussion after discussion ensued, and the only patent medicine they could suggest was James's Powder.

Mr. Boncey: No evidence was called before the magistrate to show what a patent medicine was or was not.

His Honour: Everyone knows that a patent medicine is a medicine protected by letters patent.

Mr. Boncey: It is a case of considerable importance. The

Pharmaceutical Society have taken twenty-four years to discover that this was a poison.

His Honour (to Mr. Grey): You are to prove it is a poison within the meaning of the Act.

Mr. Grey: Yes, your Honour.

Harry Moon, called and examined, said he was a clerk in the office of the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society. On October 15 last he went to 20 Warwick Street, Pimlico. It was a grocer's shop with the name of M. Piper & Co. over the door. He purchased there the bottle of Dr. Collis Browne's chlorodyne, now produced. The bottle was sealed at both ends when he bought it. He put his initials and the date upon the bottle and handed it to Dr. Paul in the same state that he got it from the shop.

Dr. B. H. Paul, consulting chemist and F.I.C., said that on November 30 last he received the bottle of Dr. Collis Browne's chlorodyne now produced from the last witness. It was wrapped up and sealed at both ends when he received it.

His Honour: You opened the bottle, and analysed its contents?

Dr. Paul: Yes. It contained morphine, which was the active principle of opium. He would consider that to come within the definition of a preparation of opium mentioned in the schedule of the Act of Parliament. Morphine was a dangerous poison. Asked how much would prove fatal he said he believed there was a case of $\frac{1}{100}$ grain proving fatal to a child, and he should say 1 grain might be a fatal dose for an adult. In the bottle of chlorodyne analysed he found a quantity in proportion to $1\frac{9}{10}$, or practically 2 grains of actual morphine in the fluid ounce. The bottle produced contained about $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of fluid.

Cross-examined, witness said there were directions on the bottle saying in what quantities the chlorodyne was to be taken. It said on the bottle he held in his hand that the dose was "10 to 30 drops to be taken in a wineglass of water, and repeated every three or four hours until relief is obtained." Taking chlorodyne might be fatal to an adult.

His Honour: I do not find anything in the Act to the effect that if the dose prescribed would not be poisonous that therefore the vendor is let off. If you want a bottle of landannm or chloroform, or anything of that sort, under proper circumstances, it would specify how much must be taken as a dose, but only certain people must dispense it or retail it.

Witness (cross-examined): There were other ingredients in chlorodyne. He knew some of them, but not all. It was a secret preparation. It contained, among other things, prussic acid (but he had not ascertained how much), treacle, peppermint, and capsicum. He had not ascertained any more. These ingredients would certainly not diminish the effect of the particular poison. In his opinion it was not possible to have a poison an ingredient in a compound and to have other ingredients which would nullify the effect of that poison. He had known chlorodyne by name many years, and knew it to be a useful medicine in many cases. In the profession he belonged to a patent medicine would be a medicine under the terms of the Stamp Act—the subject of letters patent.

His Honour: Dr. Paul is right. The Stamp Act provides what are to be the subject of stamps. They are certain occult preparations; they are patent medicines, and specified in so many words. There is the distinction drawn between nostrums, &c., and patent medicines.

Witness (by Mr. Boncey): It might be in the trade that the term "patent medicine" included proprietary medicine—stamped medicine. It was very commonly misapplied so.

His Honour: Not in an Act of Parliament.

Mr. Boncey: Where you are considering the Act of Parliament you have to take into consideration the common acceptance and the general meaning of the word used, and to give it that meaning which was obviously the meaning of the Legislature at the time the Act was passed.

His Honour: Of course that I know.

Mr. Boncey: That can only be gathered by looking at the circumstances, and as to what was the general meaning.

His Honour: Constantly people say "patent medicines" when they mean "proprietary medicines." But there is also the Act of Parliament. The Legislature know what the words mean.

Dr. Stevenson, M.D., F.R.C.S., and lecturer on chemistry and medical jurisprudence at Guy's Hospital, said he had

been present in court whilst Dr. Paul was giving his evidence, and heard what he had said, and he agreed with Dr. Paul's evidence in regard to chlorodyne containing morphine, which was a poison under the Act. Morphine was a preparation of opium, and eight-tenths of a grain had killed an adult on several occasions.

The register of the Pharmaceutical Society was then put in as evidence, and this concluded the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Boncey said he appeared for the defendants. It was considered by the Association who were defending the case, and he believed it was considered by the Pharmaceutical Society, to be a matter of very considerable public importance, and the case was defended in order to raise the very important question as to whether a grocer who had sold a bottle of chlorodyne had committed an offence within the meaning of the Act. It was a matter of some surprise that it was not until after twenty-four years that the Pharmaceutical Society had thought proper to do what they now represented to be a public duty, and, in order to protect the public, had taken proceedings against a number of grocers. This was not a question of safety to the public. What it really meant was, if the Pharmaceutical Society were right in their contention, that no one but a chemist and druggist in this country could sell that preparation which had for an ingredient one of the poisons designated in the schedule to the Act of 1868, they would secure to themselves—the chemists and druggists—a monopoly in the sale of a very large number of valuable medicines, and they would deprive the public, and a very large part of the poorer section of the public, living in outlying and thinly-populated districts, of the means of obtaining simple remedies in case of illness. There were parts of the country where they had not a qualified chemist and druggist at hand, and therefore it would be more in the interest of the public, if it could be done by a fair interpretation of the Act, to admit of a preparation of this kind being sold by a grocer, rather than place the monopoly in the hands of the chemist and druggist. It was also difficult to see how the public should be any more protected because a chemist happens to sell medicine in this way than if it is sold by a grocer.

His Honour: You would have to put "Poison" on it.

Mr. Boncey: If it was a poison.

His Honour: If the plaintiffs are right that it is a poison, they can sell under the provisions of section 17 of the Act.

Mr. Boncey: It is marked "Poison," but that does not arise here. The question here is whether it can be sold or not by anyone beyond a chemist or druggist. The Pharmaceutical Society say, No. On the other hand, we say, Yes; it can be sold by a grocer. The first section of the Act of 1868 says that "from and after the 31st December, 1838, it shall be unlawful for any person to sell or keep open shop for retailing, dispensing, or compounding poisons, or to assume or use the title, &c., unless such person shall be a pharmaceutical chemist or a chemist and druggist," &c. Then the second section defines certain things which are poisons; and the schedule to the Act has been added to from time to time by the Society with the consent of the Privy Council. Then section 16 says, "Nothing hereinbefore contained shall extend to or interfere with the business of any legally qualified apothecary, or of any member, &c., nor with the making or dealing in patent medicines, nor with the business of wholesale dealers in supplying poisons." Now, that exception was put in section 16, and therefore if chlorodyne is a patent medicine, the first section of the Act does not apply, and the article may be sold by anybody even if it be a poison.

His Honour: If it is a patent medicine.

Mr. Boncey: Whether it would be necessary to mark it "Poison" or not would be a question arising under the 17th section, under which there are penalties recoverable before the magistrate if vendors do not comply with the regulations as to selling poisons.

His Honour: It has nothing to do with that—it is under the 15th section.

Mr. Boncey: The grounds of our defence are twofold. In the first place I submit it is not a poison within the meaning of the Act; secondly, I say, if it is a poison within the meaning of the Act, then it is a patent medicine, and we have a perfect right to sell it. The contention of the Pharmaceutical Society was that if in a

mixture or compound containing, say, a dozen ingredients there was one ingredient which was one of the poisons in the schedule to the Act, it must be labelled "Poison," and could only be sold by a chemist or druggist, irrespective altogether of the quantity or the ultimate effect of the compound. If that was carried out and was accurate, there was scarcely a cough-lozenge sold in any chemist's shop that had not some portion of opium in it. If you buy a box of Keating's cough-lozenges you ought to have the box handed to you labelled "Poison." Poison was a substance which, when taken in small quantities, was dangerous to life—that was the ordinary meaning of it. That was the definition in Johnson's Dictionary, and it was so defined by Lord Coleridge, and it was not to be applied to every mixture and other compound in existence, because one of the ingredients in it happened to be a poison.

His Honour: What is the reference?

Mr. Boncey: Queen v. Pratt, 5 Q.B. Div. 309. That is where there was a conviction.

His Honour: Lord Coleridge defines poison as I should define it—that which, when administered, is injurious to health or life. If it is not given in sufficient quantities it does not destroy life.

Mr. Boncey: But he goes on to say there are poisons which, taken in small quantities, are perfectly harmless.

His Honour: He was interpreting the word "noxious" in another Act. A poison is a poison all the same, in whatever quantity it is given.

Mr. Boncey, continuing, contended that in dealing with a compound containing four or five different things one of which may happen to be a poison in infinitesimal quantity, the compound did not come within the meaning of the Act. He submitted that the proper meaning of the term "preparation of poison" was that given to it by the Privy Council directly after the Act was passed, and which had been acted upon by the Pharmaceutical Society up to 1892. Counsel read it as follows from the "Pharmacy and Poison Laws of the United Kingdom":—

"My Lords, having given their best consideration to the subject, are of opinion that the 'preparation' of a poison in the Pharmacy Act, 1838, means a compound which, like the poison of which it is a preparation, is in itself deadly or dangerous, and that it does not mean a compound which is in itself perfectly harmless, although into its composition may enter a poison, or the preparation of a poison, which taken alone would be dangerous or deadly. My Lords apprehend that questions of fact must be dealt with as they arise; for it is possible to take so much of a compound perfectly harmless if taken in reasonable quantities (*e.g.*, carbonate of soda) as to destroy life, and it is possible that a particular paregoric lozenge might contain a deadly amount of poison; but it seems to their Lordships that, for general purposes, and as matter of legal interpretation, these extreme and barely supposable cases may be disregarded, and that the Pharmaceutical Society may safely act upon the test given above.

"My Lords, however, are advised that it is not feasible to define the precise proportion of poison in any preparation which may bring it within the Act."

His Honour: Who are "My Lords"? The clerk?

Mr. Boncey: The Privy Council. They would not send such a communication without taking advice upon it. It seemed to him their interpretation of the Act, and had been accepted by the Pharmaceutical Society.

His Honour: Undoubtedly it has; but my lords there protect themselves from any use being made of their advice to the Society. There you have $\frac{1}{2}$ grain of morphine in a bottle, and it might be given to a child, and would kill that child without the slightest doubt. Why is the schedule in the Act divided into first and second parts? I do not know the difference between part 1 and part 2 of schedule A.

Mr. Boncey: That is referred to in section 17 of the Act.

His Honour: Produce the label on the chlorodyne. (Label produced.)

Mr. Boncey: "Preparations of the article" does not mean a mixture containing it; it means preparations which produce a compound of a like kind. It does not mean a mixture.

His Honour: A preparation of opium includes morphine.

Mr. Boncey: That schedule has been added to. An addition was made under section 2 and this was added, and the words have some bearing upon the compound. I am

alluding to "Every compound containing any poison within the meaning of 'The Pharmacy Act, 1868,' when prepared or sold for the destruction of vermin"—showing that the idea there was that it did not mean a compound which contained a poison within the meaning of the Act: it was only when prepared or sold for the destruction of vermin. The Pharmaceutical Society were perfectly right in the way they had acted for twenty-four years, and they were now wrong in trying to ensure a monopoly for chemists and druggists in these matters. The article in question was admitted to be a most useful and beneficial medicine.

His Honour: If taken properly.

Mr. Bancey: Yes.

His Honour: But fatal in some cases.

Mr. Bancey: If taken improperly, like a great many other things. He protested against the suggestions on behalf of the Society, that all they had to do was to go to Court and say, "Here is a compound which contains an ingredient of poison, therefore this person cannot sell it." It would have a most disastrous result upon the sale of very useful medicines throughout the country. As to the other point, he contended the article was a patent medicine. "Patent medicines" in that Act did include these stamped medicines, and that also had been the accepted opinion of the Pharmaceutical Society, and of the trade and profession generally. He should prove that beyond doubt it had been the generally accepted theory long before the Act was passed, and up to the present time, that proprietary medicines were included in that term. It was a curious thing that "patent medicines" should be the slipshod mode of expression used in an Act of Parliament to describe a medicine which was sold or dispensed under letters patent. In the Stamp Act of George III. they are not called "patent medicines" but "medicines sold under the authority of His Majesty's letters patent."

His Honour: The words are, "which have at any time heretofore been, now are, or shall hereafter be prepared, entered, vended, or exposed to sale under the authority of any letters patent under the Great Seal." Those are the words from 52 Geo. III. c. 150.

Mr. Bancey: I say that is the proper mode of expression, and if they did mean in this Act of 1868 to so limit the meaning of the words "patent medicine" they would have expressed it in the way they expressed it formerly.

His Honour: That was the way they used to do it before a certain draughtsman altered it.

Mr. Bancey: I cannot find any other Act where a patent is spoken of in that way. As a matter of fact, at the time of the passing of this Act there were an enormous number of what were strictly proprietary medicines (I would rather call them stamped medicines), and there were scarcely any medicines manufactured under letters patent, and this clause was put in the Act for the general benefit of a very influential part of the community—these large stamped-medicine vendors were increasing in number and were acting a great deal in opposition to the Pharmaceutical Society. Obviously section 16 of the Act was intended to buy off the opposition of the patent-medicine vendors, including the proprietary makers. If he might just refer to a case of construction of a statute, he would mention that in 33 Geo. III. chap. 5, the word "hospitals" was construed to mean all establishments popularly known under that designation, and even extended to "orphan institutions."

His Honour: But does it apply to orphan asylums? The meaning of the term was discussed in regard to a recent will. It is very difficult to say what "hospital" means.

Mr. Bancey: Another Act in which a technical meaning has been applied in interpreting a statute may be found in a Customs Act. Bohea tea, it has been held, was not the pure and unadulterated article known in China, but all teas usually sold under that designation in this country. This method of interpretation, he submitted, applied to all Acts alike, and limited the meaning of a word to that which it had in a popular sense. He asked his Honour to take the view that the words "patent medicines" did include proprietary medicines. He accepted the statement regarding the constitution of this particular medicine. He could not disclose all the ingredients in it because it would be disclosing the compound.

His Honour: I should have thought the analyst could have found out.

Mr. Bancey: I should have thought so.

His Honour: It does contain chloroform, prussic acid, and morphine.

Mr. Bancey: He only gave the quantity of morphine, not the quantity of chloroform or of any other poison.

Walter Whitaker, solicitor's clerk, deposed that he had searched at the Patent Office, through fourteen years prior to 1868, for specifications of patent medicines and medicaments. He discovered fifty-five applications.

Mr. F. C. Neve, pharmaceutical chemist, said he had examined the specifications Mr. Whitaker had handed to him. Thirty were original specifications, of which four contained poisons; but these medicines never had any known sale. The numbers were:—2390 (1854), 1806 (1855), 1930 (1855), and 1304 (1857). Witness was in business in 1868, and at that time a very large number of stamped medicines were being sold. He should say some thousands.

His Honour: How many were subject to letters patent?

Witness: None of them.

His Honour: How can you say that? Were James's Powders patent medicines?

Witness: That was an expired patent. I am only speaking of patents in force at the time of the passing of this Act.

By Mr. Bancey: When he spoke of thousands it was apart from those which he designated as strictly patent. Proprietary medicines were generally known in the trade as patent medicines, and were usually so described in dealers' catalogues.

His Honour: I cannot take dealers' catalogues.

Witness: Since that time the term "patent medicine" had generally been understood in the same way.

His Honour: Proprietary medicines are generally known as patent medicines—that is his evidence. Of course, that is his opinion about it.

Mr. A. G. White, in the employment of Messrs. Barclay & Sons (Limited), said Messrs. Barclay were dealers in patent medicines, proprietary articles, and sundries. It was an old-established firm.

His Honour: You draw a distinction between patent medicines and proprietary articles.

Witness: I put them together. They are synonymous in the trade.

His Honour: You distinguished them as patent medicines and proprietary articles.

Witness: They are sometimes called patent medicines and sometimes proprietary articles.

His Honour: He said they were dealers in patent medicines and proprietary articles, and you suggested druggists' sundries.

Witness produced the catalogue of the firm.

His Honour: I observe it says here, "dealers in leeches and medicines (stamped)."

Witness said that there were no medicines in the catalogue which were patent medicines in the strict sense of the word. Those medicines which were put as "medicines (stamped)" were frequently spoken of as patent medicines. Roughly speaking, he should say there were thousands in general circulation. He did not know of one medicine in existence now for which letters patent had been granted.

George Sanger, of 489 Oxford Street, vendor of patent medicines, and dealer in proprietary articles and druggists' sundries, said he had been in business since 1853. At that time all stamped medicines were known in the trade as "patent medicines." He produced one of his catalogues, dated 1863.

His Honour: It is the same thing, "dealer in patent medicines and proprietary articles."

Mr. Bancey: Your Honour will see they are spoken of as patent medicines all through.

Mr. Sanger, in reply to the Judge, said the distinction he drew between patent medicines and proprietary articles was that the proprietary articles were not stamped. The term applied to tooth-powders, &c. Since the Act of 1868 he had dealt with them in the same way as with patent medicines. He described himself over his shop as a patent-medicine vendor. He did not sell a single medicine under letters patent.

Cross-examined, witness said some of the medicines on his list had been the subject of letters patent—James's Powder, for instance.

Mr. Charles Britten, patent-medicine vendor, of 78 High Street, Birmingham, said he had been in business since 1852,

and had sold stamped medicines ever since that time. He had a 5s. licence to sell medicines. He was also a bookseller. Formerly booksellers sold medicines.

His Honour: What did you start in Birmingham as?

Witness: As a bookseller, stationer, and patent-medicine vendor.

His Honour: Then you really are a stationer selling these medicines?

Witness: That is so. (By Mr. Boncey): He had always understood that patent medicines were medicines properly brought out and stamped. Since the passing of the Act he had dealt in the same way.

His Honour: I daresay the woman who keeps the general shop in every village would call them patent medicines. Do you think the draughtsman of the House of Commons or the Legislature consulted these people as to what they called these things?

Mr. Boncey: I think when it was in Committee of the House of Commons they called evidence from an influential class of people.

Mr. A. L. Newbery, member of the firm of F. Newbery & Sons, of King Edward Street, said he was a patent-medicine vendor and druggists' sundriesman. The firm had been established 146 years. It was originally a publishing firm.

His Honour: You call yourselves patent-medicine dealers and druggists' sundriesmen; 146 years ago what did you call yourselves?

Witness: I think the same.

His Honour: With the addition of bookseller preceding it?

Witness: Yes. (By Mr. Boncey): In 1868 he should say that "patent medicine" meant everything that would cure.

His Honour: Would you say Eiliman's Embrocation is a patent medicine?

Witness: Yes. But there are two kinds; one is for horses.

His Honour: Would you include that for the equine race?

Witness: No, I should not—it would be proprietary, for it is proprietary.

His Honour: But most people know what it is.

Witness: I am not conversant with it. Most of the goods they sold were of the character of stamped medicines. He should say there were two or three thousand of them. They did not deal to a very large extent with medicines under letters patent. He could not say how many there were of them. The number was very small compared with the others.

By his Honour: He could not tell what the average number of patent medicines compared with proprietary medicines was when his firm began business.

Mr. Boncey said he now proposed to offer evidence of what occurred when the Bill was in the House of Commons, with a view of showing what was then understood by the term "patent medicines."

His Honour said that was surely inadmissible, but in view of the probability of this case going to appeal, he would not now exclude it.

Mr. James Allen, solicitor, said that in 1868 he was consulted by several patent-medicine dealers with reference to the Pharmacy Act which was in the House of Commons. Mr. Robert Barclay chiefly instructed him. He saw the solicitor of the Society, who had charge of the Bill, in the lobby of the House of Commons when the Committee rose for lunch, and the solicitor told him that they were to be exempted. He could not recall the exact words.

Cross-examined: He was referring to the Bill of 1868. The gentleman he saw he believed had charge of the Bill. He would not be sure it was Mr. Flux. It was so long ago.

Re-examined: He had no recollection that the draft Bill contained any clause exempting patent-medicine vendors.

By his Honour: He went down on behalf of Mr. Barclay. Personally he had made no representation to anybody about it. Mr. Barclay had been in communication. If Mr. Barclay described himself he would say he was a patent-medicine vendor.

His Honour: He said, "I want patent-medicine vendors exempted from the Act," and that was done. I should think I ought to exclude that evidence.

Mr. Boncey (handing witness draft Bill): Is that a copy of the draft Bill of 1868?

Witness: I think so.

His Honour: He thinks it is the draft Bill.

Witness: I had custody of the draft Bill at that time, and it may have gone out of my possession. It has no date on it.

Dr. C. Symes, pharmaceutical chemist, said he was a member of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1868. In his opinion all medicines requiring the patent-medicine stamp were commonly accepted as patent medicines.

His Honour: There is no patent-medicine duty, nor patent-medicine licence.

Witness: Excuse me, there is a duty.

His Honour: That was upon all medicines, whether they were patent or proprietary.

Witness: All medicines recommended for the cure of disease. I am quite right.

His Honour: I have the statute before me—you are quite wrong. The statute puts it upon patent medicines and proprietary articles. The question is, What is a patent? "All medicines requiring a patent-medicine licence," is his answer.

Mr. Boncey: I think not. I think your Honour misunderstood him.

Witness (examined): The term "patent medicines" included what were known as stamped medicines, and was not limited to medicines under letters patent, and since the passing of the Act the word had had the same meaning in the trade. That was the meaning as he understood it when he was a member of the Pharmaceutical Council in 1883.

Mr. Boncey: Did the Pharmaceutical Society in 1883 prepare a Bill to—

His Honour: Is that the Bill which the plaintiffs have had notice to produce?

Mr. Grey: Yes.

Mr. Boncey: I only refer to it to show what was the view the Pharmaceutical Society in 1883 took of their position with regard to a patent medicine.

After some discussion as to the admissibility of evidence concerning the draft Bill of 1883, which his Honour deprecated,

Mr. Grey, in replying for the plaintiffs, said there were two points he wished to address the Court upon; one with reference to the contention that chlorodyne was not a poison, and the other with regard to the claim that chlorodyne was a patent medicine. With respect to the first he would call attention to the case that came before Mr. Lushington. In that case it was decided that this very article was a poison within the Act, and, besides, there could be no doubt that the Act was intended, and it was so laid down in several cases, to meet any substance in which a deadly poison was contained. In that case they had, he submitted, proved that this medicine contained poison within the meaning of the Act, that it was also dangerous to life, and that if the contents of the bottle produced had been taken, except in the very minute doses in which it was ordered on the label, it would have been dangerous either to child or man as the case might be. He therefore submitted that he had proved that chlorodyne came under sections 15 and 2 of the Act, which sections defined that a poison under the Act was a poison, or preparation of a poison, which was contained in the two schedules. There had been several cases brought by the Society with regard to all sorts of compounds and preparations, and in every case judgment had been given for the Society. This point was so clear that he would not detain his Honour by arguing further upon it. The contention of the Society was that the defendant had sold them a bottle of chlorodyne containing poison, and by so doing had put himself within the Act and made himself liable to the penalty under that Act, he being at the time a grocer and not a registered chemist. As to the second point, they had had a lot of evidence which was entirely irrelevant to the issue—evidence that had proved absolutely nothing. In fact, it had been rather in favour of the plaintiffs' case. The first witness called was Mr. Whittaker. He had proved absolutely nothing except that there were fifty-five applications for letters patent during the fourteen years before 1868. Then came Mr. Neve, who said that there were thirty complete specifications, and that only four of those contained poisons. He said himself that those were never used. Next came Mr. Sanger, who produced a catalogue which had been put in, and as his Honour said, it did not prove the defendants' case one bit. It, in fact, contained under the head of patent

medicines many things which were proprietary medicines and nostrums and other preparations. Therefore that catalogue did not prove anything against the plaintiffs. Then came Mr. Britton, and he said that he was only a bookseller, and he (the learned counsel) did not think that his opinion would weigh with his Honour in the slightest degree. After him they heard Mr. Newbery, and he also seemed to belong to a publishing firm, but had now become a patent-medicine vendor and druggist. This witness, his Honour would hear in mind, had to admit that in his book among things under the heading of patent medicines there were only four or five for which letters patent had been taken out. Therefore his evidence proved nothing for the defendants. Now, with regard to the remarks made by his learned friend, he wished to say that it was not the Pharmaceutical Society who was suing for a penalty in the sense of its being the Society itself. The Society was ordered by Act of Parliament to sue certain people who infringed that Act, and it did not matter to the Society one way or another; if it was infringed it was the Society's duty to sue for the penalty. What he submitted now was the contention that chlorodyne was not a patent medicine, no letters patent having been taken out. It was a proprietary medicine and nothing more. It was true that section 16 did exempt patent medicines from the operations of the Act, but they must, before letters were granted, reveal the constituent parts of the medicine. He did not think it had been proved that there had been any medicine patented in which there was any, or anyhow a very little, poison in it. If these proprietary medicines and nostrums were held to be patent medicines under section 16, anybody would be able, by paying the stamp and taking out a licence for 5s., to put any poison he liked, or any amount of poison he liked, into a bottle and sell it to anybody he liked, and he would not come within the Act.

His Honour, in giving judgment, said the question he had to try was whether chlorodyne was a poison or not. He was, of course, not bound by the decision of Mr. Lushington, but still he had it that Mr. Lushington had said it was a poison. The contention of the defendants was that it was not a poison, because, though admittedly it contained some of three different poisons, it was mixed with other preparations. Why, the label itself settled the question, for it said that the bottles contained poison. It said that it contained chloroform and opium, but ignored that it contained also prussic acid. Did poisons cease to be poisons because they were mixed with something else? He must arrive at that conclusion before he arrived at the conclusion that this was not a poison. He thought it was clear that the whole mischief intended to be prevented by the Act would be allowed if it were once admitted that they had only to mix poisons with water or anything else and they could sell them because they ceased then to be a poison. The Act was very specific. He could not hold any such proposition as that. It seemed too clear for argument that a poison, however mixed up with other things, did not cease to be a poison. The vendors of patent medicines were exempt, and he was told that this was a patent medicine, and that it came within the exemption clause, and that it was so understood. It was, no doubt, a convenient and handy title for vendors of patent medicines to keep up the title for the protection of such medicines, but he did not find that there was anything in the law which recognised them as patent medicines. The law did recognise patent medicines, but it recognised other medicines as liable to stamp-duty also. In proof of this, his Honour read the familiar extract from the Medicine-stamp Act, which imposes liability on medicines

wherein the person making, preparing, uttering, vending, or exposing to sale the same hath or claims to have any occult secret or art for the making or preparing the same, or hath or claims to have any exclusive right or title to the making or preparing the same, or which have at any time heretofore been, now are, or shall hereafter be prepared, uttered, vended, or exposed to sale under the authority of any letters patent under the Great Seal, or which have at any time heretofore been, now are, or shall hereafter be by any public notice or advertisement, or by any written or printed papers or handbills, or by any label or words written or printed, affixed to or delivered with any packet, box, bottle, phial, or other inclosure containing the same, held out or recommended to the public by the makers, vendors, or proprietors thereof as nostrums or proprietary medicines, or as specifics, or as beneficial to the prevention, cure, or relief of any distemper, malady, ailment, disorder, or complaint incident to or in any wise affecting the human body.

There the Legislature recognised particularly those medicines which were protected by letters patent. Patent medicines were protected and exempted because everybody could know what they contained, but nostrums and proprietary medicines might contain the most deadly poisons and he of the utmost injury to the public without anyone but the owner being aware of it. He could not hold that this medicine was exempt and he thought the defendants were liable to the penalty. Judgment, therefore, would be for the plaintiffs.

Mr. Grey asked, as the case was one of great importance, for costs on the higher scale.

His Honour said the plaintiffs were of course not ordinary plaintiffs in a case like this, and he should only allow the ordinary costs.

On the application of Mr. Boncey, leave to appeal was granted, and it was agreed that the other cases should stand over until the result of the appeal was known.

Mr. Grey asked if his Honour could not grant leave on condition that the defendants should in some way be prevented in the meantime from selling the chlorodyne.

His Honour said he did not see how that could be done. The sale had been going on since 1868, and he did not see how they could be injured by its going on a little longer.

Business Changes.

MR. THOMAS DUNN, chemist, Selkirk, has taken Mr. James Connachie (a former apprentice) into partnership.

THE chemist and druggist's business of the late Mr. J. S. Metcalfe, at Highgate, Kendal, has been taken by Mr. A. Heap.

THE old-established business which belonged to the late Mr. James Hindes, 34A High Street, Dalkeith, has just been acquired by Mr. William Kemp.

MR. H. RICHARDS, late of Bath, has purchased (through the agency of Messrs. Berdoo & Co.) the business of Mr. J. M. Rogers, Market Place, Warminster, Wilts.

MR. J. L. HEATH, of Osmaston, Old Derby, has disposed of his business to Mr. Thomas Hodgkinson, of Belper. The transfer was conducted by Messrs. Berdoo & Co.

MR. G. E. BURT, of 313 High Street, Stratford, has disposed of his business to Mr. C. A. Simpson, of Mare Street, Hackney. Messrs. Berdoo & Co. negotiated the transfer.

MR. HAROLD T. ESCRITT, of Driffield, has purchased (through the agency of Messrs. Berdoo & Co.) the business of Mr. William Boscombe, 102 High Road, Streatham, S.W.

THE offices of J. Mountain & Co. are now removed from West Street to 16 Finsbury Circus, London, E.C. The office of Mr. John Hughes (deputy) is also removed to the same address.

MR. GEORGE ROBERTSON, who was for many years assistant with Mr. R. Hume, of Cowcaddens Street and Renfield Street, Glasgow, has purchased the business which was carried on with much success by the late Mr. John Nicol, at 4 Dowanhill Place, Partick.

MR. B. A. GEORGE, who for over twenty-five years has carried on business as chemist and druggist at Pentre, the centre of the Rhondda Valley, is removing to more commodious premises, which are to be fitted and stocked for him by the Chemists' Association, Curtain Road, London.

MR. H. HELBIG, F.C.S., of 63 Queen Victoria Street, has fitted up a much larger laboratory than that which he has hitherto used at the same address. He has engaged Mr. Walter Neuss, from Fresenius's laboratory at Wiesbaden, as assistant to Dr. F. W. Passmore, who is associated with him.

AERATED DRINKS AT THE CHICAGO EXHIBITION.—The privilege of supplying soda-water in the World's Fair has been granted to a firm who agree to pay 62½ per cent. of the gross receipts to the Exhibition authorities. The firm which is to supply the waters have ordered 200 soda-water fountains.

Trade Notes.

It is an excellent and novel idea on the part of Messrs. Blondeau & Cie. to publish portraits of "some Vinolia representatives." The eight portraits make two effective page advertisements in this issue.

MESSRS. THOMAS TYRER & Co., of Stirling Chemical works, make a special announcement this week in regard to the "Tyrer" brand of hydrogen peroxide, which is instructive in view of recent correspondence.

THE SANITAS COMPANY (LIMITED) have now ready their little almanac and diary for 1893. It contains all the races and race-meetings for the year, together with interest and discount tables and other useful information.

BESIDES the firms named last week, Messrs. Blondeau & Cie., Ryland Road, N.W., and Messrs. John Richardson & Co., Leicester (Limited), announce their intention to close their establishments on the Monday and Tuesday after Christmas.

MESSRS. WILLIAM BLEASDALE & Co., of York, are putting forward some attractively put-up goods at very moderate prices. There is an excellent cucumber and glycerine "cream," supplied in bulk or put up, good perfumes put up in sprinkler bottles at varying prices, some new cachoulozenges in elegant counter vases, and packets of frost for Christmas.

MESSRS. BURROUGHS, WELLCOME & Co. have been awarded four gold medals and a silver one at the Kimberley Exhibition. The gold medals are for hypodermic "tabloids" and "tabloids" of compressed drugs, Kepler's extract of malt and combinations, medicine-chests and cases, and for excellent quality of drugs and essences exhibited. The silver medal is for naso-pharyngeal and laryngeal atomisers.

THE TASMANIAN EUCALYPTUS OIL COMPANY have arranged with Mr. Helbing to have all the shipments of eucalyptus oil received by them chemically examined by Dr. Passmore and Mr. Helbing, and their certificate will be given to purchasers of the oil. The copy of the analysts' certificate of the last-received shipment, which is printed in the company's advertisement this week, appears to indicate a striking uniformity in the oil.

SPBATT'S PATENT (LIMITED) have issued a valuable Calendar for 1893, on which famous dogs and famous fowl are illustrated, and excellent descriptions of the "points" in many of the breeds of these animals enumerated. They have distributed the first edition of this Calendar to their regular customers, but will send a copy of a reprint to any chemist who cares to send them two penny stamps for postage and wrapping. It is good value.

SAMPLES of "Christy's prepared kola" were exhibited at the meeting of the Royal Botanical Society last week, and aroused considerable interest. The manufacturers inform us that they experience a good deal of trouble in the grinding of the drug, as it is inordinately liable to acquire the odour of any other products that happen to be in its vicinity during the grinding process. Two batches of kola have already been rendered unfit for use in consequence of this peculiarity. Messrs. Thomas Christy & Co. will be glad to send samples of their new preparation to chemists applying for them.

MR. S. M. BURROUGHS writes from Montreux, Switzerland, to the publisher of this journal to express his high appreciation of the usefulness of the DIARY for 1893. Mr. Burroughs took a great deal of trouble with his lengthy advertisement in that publication, but he remarks that he would like to have the trade know that he is sorry to see the effect of his tabloid borders. It was only intended to print that border round one page, and they were extended to all the pages in consequence of a misunderstanding. He wishes to apologise to readers and other advertisers for what he regards as a disfigurement.

MESSRS. DAY & SONS, of Crewe, have produced a very handsome almanac, which is called "Day's Annual for 1893." A copy of this annual is sent free to all agriculturists and horsekeepers in the country, and it would be well if chemists

who have customers amongst these classes would also secure copies, which Messrs. Day & Sons will doubtless be pleased to send. It contains exceptionally well-selected information of a kind which is of constant use to farmers and others, and there is much else of an instructive and interesting character. The cover contains a group of champions—viz.: "Vulcan," shire stallion; "Princess Louisa," shire mare; "M.P." hackney stallion; "Nora," hackney mare; "Major," shorthorn bull; "Truth," shorthorn cow; and Mr. Inge's Shropshire ram.

FROM an announcement made in this issue it will be observed that Messrs. John Murdoch & Co., of Leadenhall Street, E.C., are now prepared to supply the trade with eucalyptus oil distilled from the leaves of *Eucalyptus Globulus* trees grown in Natal. Apart from the interest attached to the oil as being derived from plants acclimatised in our South African colony, the samples which we have examined sufficiently indicate that we may in the future look to Natal for a steady supply of this medicinal agent. According to Dr. B. H. Paul's analysis the oil has a specific gravity of 0.9172 at 66° F., yields about 12 per cent. of distillate between 170° and 172° C., and 79 per cent. between 172° and 190° C.—factors which point to a standard eucalyptol content. Our own observations confirm these results, and it is interesting to note that a preliminary sample which we have had in our possession for some months, shows a specific gravity of 0.922, while that now submitted to us is 0.9175. The oil is of a pale amber colour, and of fragrant odour. Its value could be enhanced by freeing it from the lower boiling-fractions.

Personalities.

MR. J. C. C. PAYNE, pharmaceutical chemist, of Belfast, has been appointed to the Commission of the Peace for the Borough of Belfast.

MR. LUDWIG MOND, F.R.S., who gave 2,000*l.* to the proposed Institute of Preventive Medicine, a few days ago, received the degree of Doctor of Laws and Science from the University of Padua on Monday.

DR. JUSTUS KARL HASSKARL, the veteran cinchona pioneer, who is now living at Cleve, in Germany, has been awarded a gold medal by the Dutch Government in acknowledgement of the gift of his herbarium to Leyden University. The herbarium consists of over 20,000 botanical specimens, mostly collected by the donor and arranged by him. Dr. Hasskarl has also presented to the same university his valuable collection of cinchona specimens.

Deaths.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Cox, S. H., and Nettleton, W. S., under the style of The Southport Aërated-water Company, Southport, mineral-water manufacturers.

Gates & Hewett, Fairclough Street, Back Church Lane, Commercial Road, E., drug and spice grinders.

Hutchinson, E., Greenhalgh, S., and Balshaw, J., under the style of E. Hutchinson & Co., Feniscowles, near Blackburn, and Bolton-le-Moors, manufacturing chemists.

Thonger, G., and Barrass, T. E., under the style of Thonger & Barrass, Harborne, Stafford, pharmaceutical chemists.

Van der Pant & James, Kingston-on-Thames and Surbiton, dental surgeons.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

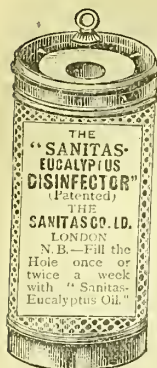
RECEIVING ORDER.

Sinzlinex, Arthur, late of Stoke-upon-Trent, now of Pontblyddyn near Mold, Flintshire, chemist.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Hardy, Robert, Fenchurch Street, City, and Camden Square, N.W., late Great Tower Street, City, chemist and druggist.

Snawdon, F. Seaton, trading as Robert Hall & Co., Portslade, Sussex, manufacturer of sheep-dip.



"SANITAS-EUCALYPTUS DISINFECTORS"
(PATENTED).

An Automatic Appliance for Disinfecting the Air, and Scenting Rooms, &c.

Price 1s. each.

"SANITAS-EUCALYPTUS OIL,"

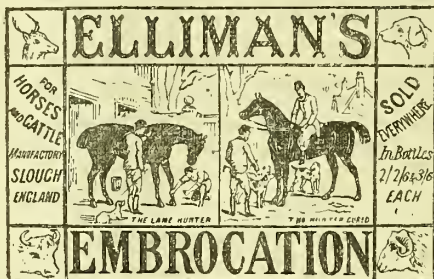
For charging same, &c., in 1s. Bottles.

See also page 40 (bottom folio).

THE SANITAS CO. (LIM.)

BETHNAL GREEN, E.

SHOW CARDS, 24 × 17 or 17 × 12,
Sent to any address in the United Kingdom.



See first page, facing inside of front of cover, of first issue of this month, for latest particulars.

A POSITIVE PAIN - KILLER.

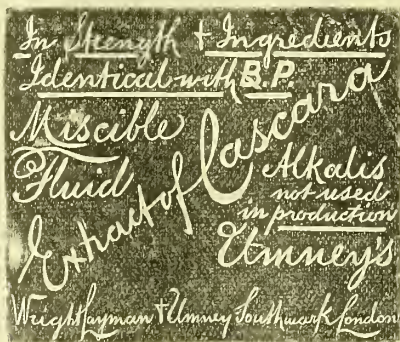
GORDON STABLES, M.D., R.N.

DAY'S OIL OF THE NIGHT

Is an Embrocative Balm for the People, and a source of profit to the Retailer.

1s. 1½d. and 2s. 0d. NO CUTTING. [2]

DAY & SONS, CREWE.



SILICATED CARBON FILTERS



PATENT SELF-AERATING
MOVEABLE BLOCKS

WORKS, BATTERSEA LONDON. S.W.

MOSS'S Mixes with Water.
Certain and Pleasant.
Not Nauseous. **MISCIBLE** "A great Improvement."
(REGISTERED)
CASCARA

"A very elegant preparation of this drug."

"Superior to anything yet introduced."

—Extracts from Letters.

Through any Wholesale House, or from the ONLY MAKERS—

JOHN MOSS & COMPANY,

Galen Works, New Cross Road, LONDON, S.E.



SANDOI'S CHOICE PERFUMES.

Excellence of quality and artistic merit have alone sufficed, with an entire absence of advertising, to accord these beautiful perfumes an extensive sale. Chemists unacquainted with them would do well to sample at once for Christmas Trade. They are absolutely unrivalled. Price list upon application.

BULK ESSENCES, &c.

English Offices:—26 Clerkenwell Road, LONDON, E.C.

MEDICAL ELECTRICITY.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF

Galvanic, Faradaic, and Electro-Magnetic
Machines and Electrodes, Galvano-Cautery, and
Lighting Instruments.

Lists Free. Descriptive Catalogue, 100 Illustrations,
32 pages, 4 stamps.



GENT & CO., LEICESTER.

**SOUTHALL'S
ATTRACTIVE SPECIALITIES.**

To bear Name and Address of Buyer.

NOVELTIES are Constantly being
Added to the Series.

Sample Cases containing Dummies, and full particulars,
are sent for inspection to any registered Chemist in the
United Kingdom; Carriage Free both ways.

"OF EXCEPTIONAL MERIT AND ORIGINALITY."

The Chemist and Druggist.

SOUTHALL BROS. & BARCLAY, BIRMINGHAM.

*Fletcher's
Concentrated Siquors*

"WE CAN CONSCIENTIOUSLY RECOMMEND THEM."—The Practitioner

Editorial Comments.

THE SALE OF POISONOUS PROPRIETARY MEDICINES.

WE report this week, with much satisfaction, that the grocers and the chemists have at last come to close quarters in regard to the law affecting the sale of proprietary medicines containing poisons. We have many times expressed

the hope that the question involved would sooner or later come before the High Court, let the result be what it might. It was ruled at Bow Street Police Court last April that it was necessary to put a poison-label on such a medicine, but a considerable number of persons have held the opinion very strongly that the sale of such articles by unregistered persons was not illegal. The case before Mr. Lushington did not raise that point directly. It was a charge under the 17th section of the Pharmacy Act of selling a certain preparation containing a poison, not labelled as required by that section. But the point was raised in the defence that, as by the 16th section of the Act it was provided that nothing therein-before contained should apply to the making and dealing in patent medicines, and as one of the preceding sections created statutory poisons, it became his duty to define the legal meaning of the phrase "patent medicines." He said he should adopt the definition of the statute 52 Geo. III., c. 150, and should hold that patent medicines were those "which have at any time heretofore been, now are, or shall hereafter be prepared, uttered, vended, or exposed to sale under the authority of any letters patent under the Great Seal." Mr. Lushington's judgment made it quite clear that not only must poisonous proprietary medicines be labelled, but that, further, unless they were or had been actually patented articles, they could only be legally sold by registered chemists and druggists.

On this expression of opinion the Pharmaceutical Society has, since last April, recovered from unqualified vendors a considerable number of penalties. These dealers—grocers principally—have complained loudly of this interference with the nice little business they had annexed. They were backed by some manufacturers of proprietary medicines, who held that Mr. Lushington had come to his decision without a full knowledge of the circumstances, and they professed to believe that if the alleged facts could be established in evidence, and the case fully argued, they had a good prospect of retaining the rights which, as they believed, the Pharmacy Act reserved to them in respect of these preparations. The Federated Grocers' Association therefore resolved to fight, and the contest on Wednesday was the first result of this determination.

In this first encounter the grocers have suffered a crushing defeat. It is understood that they intend to carry their contentions to the High Court, and until the decision is finally established our business with the case is limited to reporting it. The Court over which Judge Bacon presides was well filled when the case was called with pharmacists, Grocers' Association people, representatives of the principal patent-medicine houses, and reporters. The Judge settled himself with evident enjoyment to the hearing, and within five minutes from the opening he had made it clear that he was well posted on the dispute, and had formed a pretty strong opinion on it. The case for the prosecution was very brief, and consisted simply in proving the purchase of the chlorodyne, that it contained morphine, and that the defendant was not on the register of chemists and druggists. The defendant's counsel raised two defences. First, he contended that a mixture of various ingredients with a poison as one of them was not necessarily a poison itself within the meaning of the Act; and, secondly, he argued that if this article, chlorodyne, were a poison, it came within the definition of patent medicines, the making and dealing in which are exempted from the operation of the Pharmacy Act.

The Judge treated both defences with scant respect. It was proved to everyone's satisfaction that a great many people had used the phrase "patent medicines" to cover stamped medicines generally. But when it came to asking the judge to adopt this slovenliness of expression as his guide

in construing the statute, the difficulty began. His Honour rejected such a claim almost with contempt; and until the grocers can get Judge Bacon's verdict overthrown by a superior Court, the exclusive right of chemists and druggists to sell poisonous proprietary medicines is established as the law of the land.

It is right to state that Dr. Symes, who gave evidence for the defence, came on subpoena. Mr. Carteighe was also in court on subpoena, but was not called.

DEATHS.

ASQUITH.—The death is announced of Mr. W. C. Asquith, chemist and druggist, of Colne, at the age of 79 years. Mr. Asquith was at one time a member of the Local Board, of which he was made chairman, and in 1884 he cut the first sod of the new reservoir at Reedshaw Moss. By his will he has bequeathed 100*l.* to the Victoria Hospital for Burnley and district, 100*l.* to the Albert Road Wesleyan Chapel, Colne, and 50*l.* to the Colne Parish Church.

BURBIDGE.—Mr. Fred Burbidge, of the firm of Burgoyne, Burbidges, Cyriax & Farries, of 10 Coleman Street, E.C., died on Monday night, December 12, at his residence, Micklesfield, near Rickmansworth, from an attack of pleurisy. Mr. Burbidge, who had been ailing for about a month, was in his 61st year, having been born at Champion Hill, Camberwell, on November 23, 1832. At an early age the deceased gentleman entered into the partnership of the firm of Burgoyne & Burbidge, then of Throgmorton Street, of which his elder and still surviving brother Thomas was already a proprietor, and the origin of which dates back to the year 1741. Shortly after Mr. Fred Burbidge's accession the premises of the firm were transferred to 10 Coleman Street. The deceased conducted the financial part of the business, while his brother Thomas attended the markets. Upon the admission of Messrs. Julius Cyriax and Thomas Farries the two brothers Burbidge retired from active partnership, though Mr. Fred Burbidge was in the habit of visiting the offices at intervals until the time of his death, and always had a kind word for the many employes who had served under him and whom he knew personally. To the world at large Mr. Fred Burbidge was best known as one of the most prominent cricketers of his day. He played his first match for Surrey in 1854 and his last in 1866, and had a considerable share in the successes of the old eleven, often batting well when runs were wanted, and being always an admirable field, particularly at point. The highest scores he made for Surrey were 101 in 1863, against Sussex, at Brighton, and 104 in 1864, against Thirteen of Cambridge University, at the Oval. After his retirement from the active pursuit of the game, Mr. Burbidge retained the keenest interest in Surrey cricket, and kept his place on the committee. Mr. Burbidge was married and his widow survives. The funeral will take place on Saturday, December 17, at 1.30 P.M., at Sarraf, near Rickmansworth.

GLEN.—On December 5, James Glen, chemist and druggist, Renfrew.

KERSHAW.—On December 2, at Keighley, from syncope, J. H. Kershaw, formerly of Halifax, in his 76th year. Mr. Kershaw was from 1835 to 1840 a pupil of the late Dr. Jubb, senior surgeon to the Halifax Infirmary. He afterwards commenced business as a chemist at Bull Green, Halifax, which he carried on for over thirty-five years, when he retired. He leaves a widow, three sons (two of whom are chemists, the other a London hospital secretary), and two daughters.

MOODY.—On December 8, very suddenly, of heart-disease, Mr. S. W. Moody, chemist and druggist, Louth. Mr. Moody had been in business in Louth over thirty years.

PARRY.—On November 13, H. R. Parry, chemist and druggist, Liverpool. Aged 52.

SPENCER.—On October 20, Anthony Spencer, chemist and druggist, Keighley. Aged 62.

CHEMISTS' CHRISTMAS DISPLAYS.

IDEAS FROM POST-CARD COMPETITORS.

THE public have a lot more money to spend than tradesmen generally credit them with. They want to be tempted. They want to see handsome things, good things, cheap things, useful things, and if the chemist has a nice window he ought to accommodate his neighbourhood in this respect. The character of the display must, of course, vary with the class of customers to be attracted, but something new in medicine is sure to be popular in all circles. Little children do not like medicine, but then, as they are often told, they do not know what is good for them. As they grow older and get money to spend some of them will develop that extraordinary taste for alcohol, bitters, or tobacco, while others, or perhaps all of them, will more or less revel in pills, mixtures, ointments, and other mysterious compounds, neatly put up. The innate love and reverence of the majority of the passers-by in any street for medicines and medicinal appliances, much more than the occasional absolute necessity of these, is the circumstance which should form the *motif* of the chemist's window-dressing at this or any other time of the year. But though medicine may rightly hold a place in every chemist's window, the many arts which chemists have most properly annexed furnish abundant other opportunities of interesting display. From the post-cards sent in reply to our invitation in November we select the following as ideas which should bear fruit in scores of places:—

ELEGANT, BUT NOT PARTICULARLY ORIGINAL.

In the centre a mahogany stand (with plate-glass backs to shelves) of fancy cut-glass bottles of perfumes, odorators, and silver-top smelling-bottles. On either side similar stands, with all the leading perfumes of the day (effectively arranged). In the window, plate-glass shelves with fancy articles, and finish off with effective showcards (say, "Vinolia"). If the above be done with care and taste it looks beautiful, and the articles sell well.

H. JOWETT, with E. T. Palmer, Aylesbury.

In dressing the window to perfection two things must be kept in view—first, that you do not sacrifice the sale of your own preparations by crowding them all out of window to make room for special goods; secondly, so to dress the window that anything can be readily taken from it. Care should be taken not to overlook the special requirements for general household demand at that time. Close to the front have tooth-paste one end, then tin of jujubes; in centre your own cough-mixture; next, another tin of a different kind of jujubes, and then tooth-powder. On a fairly broad space, according to window, then set out perfumes (single bottles and fancy cases), taking special care to have all marked plainly; back of these raise three stacks, broad at bottom, gradually tapering up to a point: centre with cod-liver oil other two own specialities. On top of each, if room, put a seltzogene to finish up with, and between the spaces hang chest-protectors. These can be moved easily to get anything from the window.

A. BROWN, 50 Woodbridge Road, Moseley.

THREE DIVISIONS.

Set apart three portions of the window. In the central one display artistically attractive specialities, perfumes, soaps, pomades, and toilet requisites, over which suspend in nets toilet sponges. On one side make a good show of cod-liver oil and its preparations, above which suspend chest-protectors and requisites for consumptives. On the other side make a good show of cough and cold mixtures, cough and throat lozenges, above which suspend loofahs, bath-gloves, and sponges. Delicately-tinted ribbon to be used for all the suspensions. The window should look full, but not overcrowded. It should be well lit with electric light inside the window-case where possible.

H. D. BRICE, 4 St. James Street, Guernsey.

Divide the window-enclosure into three parts. Drape each division with art-muslin—No. 1 with green, No. 2 with amber, No. 3 with crimson. In the centre of No. 1 fix a bent mirror, in which the beholder appears thin; surround it with blisters, leech-tubes, cupping-glasses, lancets, a lizard, and such like articles. Have some green fairy-lights in this division, and coat the glass at the top of the enclosure with sol. $MgSO_4$, coloured green. In No. 3 division fix a mirror which gives an exaggerated stoutness. Display around it cough-linctus, ext. malt, cod oil, chem. food, and chest-protectors. Red fairy lights, and coat the glass above the enclosure with a red solution. In No. 2 division display, on a revolving stand, perfumes, sprays, toilet-bottles, &c. Label No. 1 "The Old Style," No. 3 "The New Way," No. 2 "Christmas Presents."

CHAS. W. DOWSWELL, 51 Easton Street, High Wycombe.

Window 10 feet 2 inches, with two mirrored enclosures, each 5 feet by 6 feet high—five glass shelves in each. Top and second shelves: Fancy soaps in boxes; centre, chest-protectors hanging from top, with a few bottles hair restorer (own preparation). Third: In centre a good display of cough-balsam, neatly wrapped, with a few bottles cod-liver oil on either side; right side, puff-boxes, puffs, and a show of glycerine-jelly; left side, violet-powder, bottles of glycerine and cucumber, and toilet-powder. Fourth: Right-hand filled with eau de Cologne (own speciality), nicely arranged, and ticket to denote price; centre, good display of spray-producers, hair-lotion; left, sundry brushes, hair (wire and bristle), nail, and indiarubber flesh brushes; end of same shelf, a few bottles of complexion-balm. Fifth shelf: A good display of perfumes, smelling-bottles, tooth pastes and washer, and tooth-brushes. Base of enclosure: Sponges, bath-gloves, flesh-brushes, soaps, &c. No. 2 enclosure dressed with invalid and nursery requisites, feeding bottles and cups, medicine glasses and tubes, inhalers, spitting-mugs, nursery aprons, bibs, loofahs, thermometers (clinical and ordinary), champagne-taps, bronchitis-kettles, mineral waters, eye baths, syringes, enemas, food-warmers, trusses, &c. Top shelf: Disinfectants (own speciality).

NEMO, Derby.

A MEDIEVAL LABORATORY.

Arrange the interior to resemble a mediæval laboratory (a model of which will be found in the Winter Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for 1892). For a central piece construct an aspirator, same as that described in the Summer Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for 1891, which will form an effective background for a tasteful display of chemical apparatus. A place should be found for boxes of simple chemicals, to sell at 1s, surrounded by Cleopatra's Needle done in alum crystals, or a number of glass jars containing examples of crystallised vegetation, lead-tree, flower-bleaching, and other experiments given in "Scientific Mysteries." On the window-glass have a black-letter inscription, "Scientific Mysteries for Evening and Christmas Parties." In the foreground of window have a number of volumes of "Scientific Mysteries," with illustrations shown. A fairy lamp, placed at proper intervals for night illumination, would attract a deal of attention and custom for the seasonable goods exhibited.

PETER J. BENNETT, 285 Duke Street, Glasgow.

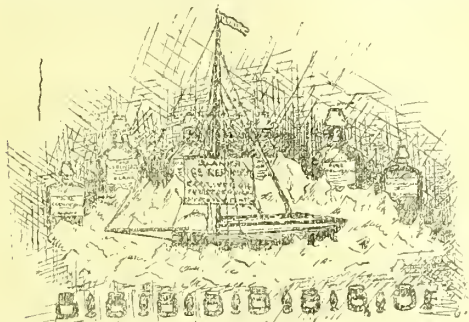
A VARIETY SHOW.

After the window and the whole of the inside arrangement have been thoroughly cleansed, the bottom of the window should be covered with paper, such as is used for wrapping proprietary articles, and with a pinkish tint. Then place the carboys, and show-jars, which have also been well cleansed and polished with chamolis leather. In the front of window, on a bed of cotton-wool, put an assortment of coloured salt-bottles; at the back of these, on raised ledge, a good display of perfumery of all kinds. On a ledge a little higher, boxes of soaps of various kinds, suitable for Christmas presents, &c. Then on a still higher ledge, further back, such things as saline with your name and address, food for infants, hair-lotions with attractive labels, bottles of mixed fruit-drops, your own cough-specific, boxes of jujubes of all kinds, throat-lozenges, &c. At the end of window, next to door, a display of scientific apparatus of all kinds, also a good show of "Scientific Mysteries," as these books not only sell well themselves, but they induce the sale

of a quantity of chemicals and apparatus to make the experiments. Tie a cord from one end of window to the other, and show on it chest-protectors, flesh-gloves, elastic stockings, sponges, bags and baskets, respirators, tubing, &c. A neat card with "A Merry Christmas!" completes the display.

W. H. WILCOCK,
The High Street Pharmacy, Honiton, Devon.
A WINTRY WINDOW.

A good illustration and a good notion are sent by Mr. WILLIAM H. HOARE, 179 Blackstock Road, Highbury. Mr. Hoare says:—"Take one of Southall's or any good toy boat, and surround it with lumps of alum so as to represent ice. At the back arrange cod-liver oil or any other seasonable



speciality. A more realistic effect might be produced by powdering the rigging with powdered alum, to represent snow. Menthol, vaseline, or glycerine-jelly may be laid here and there among the 'ice.' The sail should not be up, but a card can be attached to the mast with advertisement on it."

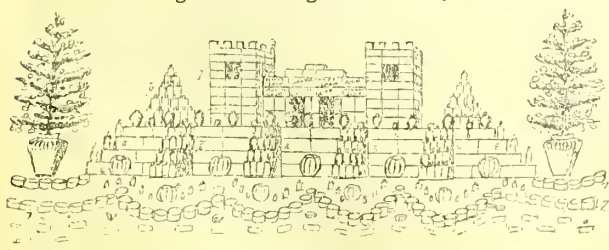
A SKELETON IN THE WINDOW.

Mr. GIFFARD H. LENFESTEY, 6 Piccadilly Mansions, Piccadilly Circus, W., suggests a gruesome, but no doubt a striking, display in the drawing appended. Mr. Lenfesty thus describes his window:—"In the fore part of window stands a skeleton, its right hand clasping the pestle resting in a mortar containing cod-liver oil emulsion, while in the left hand it holds a cod. A branch of the *Acacia arabica* stands just behind a basket of cod. A circular glass stand is placed on either side containing bottles of the prepared emulsion. In the back of the window are shelves containing the most popular perfumes and remedies of the day, and the bottom of the window is filled with sponge." This is, at least, a striking idea where such a window as

that which which Mr. Lenfesty so admirably outlines is available.

CASTELLATED.

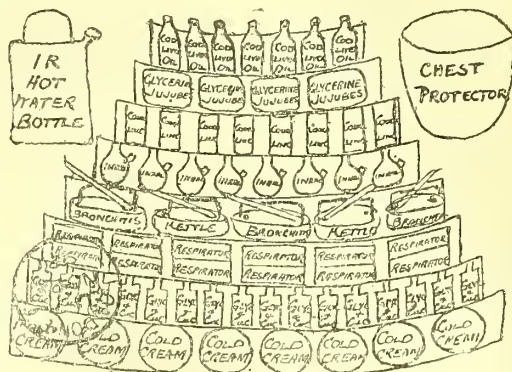
The following artistic design is offered by Mr. H. L. HUNT,



c/o Mr. E. Capper, 33 Gay Street, Bath. The scheme is

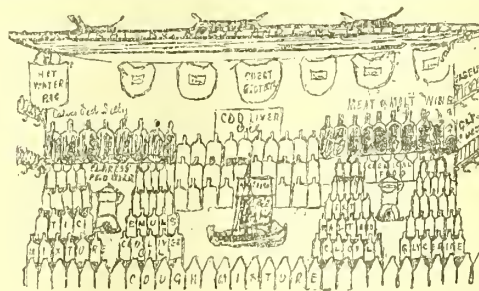
explained by the following references:—1. Castle of soap-boxes, &c. 2. "Vinolia" creams, &c. 3. Buttress-terraced bottles cucumber-cream, &c. 4. Ditto. 5. Trees filled with souvenirs. 6. Fairy lamps, which may be lighted at night. 7. Cold cream, puff-boxes, &c. 8. Wall of any square or oblong goods. Windows and doors to be spaces; pillars, shaving-soap. Smelling-salts, scents, sachets, &c., to be placed about. Floor of window to be covered with French chalk and "Jack Frost," also cotton-wool placed about on trees, &c.

Mr. W. R. COOK (with Messrs. Ballard & Co), Faringdon, Berks, offers the subjoined sketch, which is self-explanatory:—



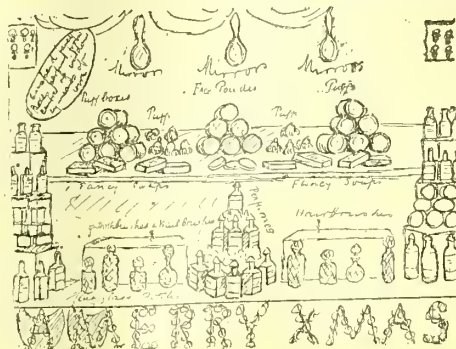
VARIOUS DESIGNS.

The designs are not all of equal merit. The one that follows is not a high specimen of art, but the scheme is clear enough. There are four semicircular stands, with a model fishing-boat in the middle, and Clarke's food-warmer between each couple. Camphor-balls, boxes of cough-



lozenges, respirators, and glycerine-jelly in spaces between the stands—four half-circular stands, each containing one kind. Show night-lights, besides Clarke's food-warmer, also tapers and candles, if possible. Show on glass shelves up to window smelling-bottles, perfumes, vaseline, glycerine and cucumber, and honey in glass jars on side shelves. Place bronchitis-kettles on top of window, also inhalers. J. S.

The idea of the next display is pretty well indicated by

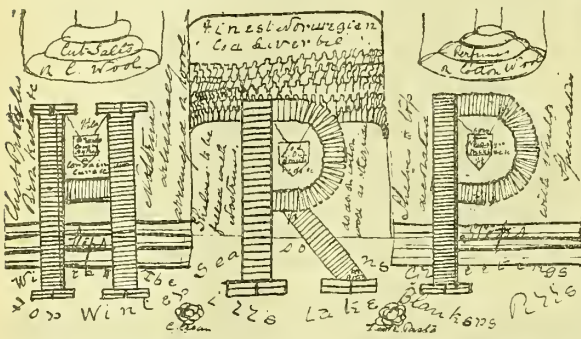


the sketch. The letters of "Merry Christmas" are to be

formed of small sponges strung on wire, resting aslant on boxes forming shelf. The mirrors to be hung on a wire. The pyramids to be (left) eau de Cologne, jujubes, pomades, infants' food; (right) glycerine and cucumber, tooth-paste, tooth-wash, infants' food. Shelf containing puff-boxes is edged with blue. Fancy soap-boxes arranged to form background to perfumes, &c., edged with white wool, also perfume-shelves. Shelf with cut-glass bottles edge with red, also brushes. The whole to be arranged on boxes forming shelves covered with paper. Each of these pyramids to be edged with blue-paper shavings, which can be cut from tissue paper.

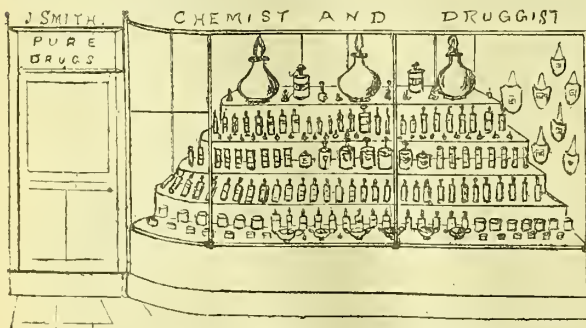
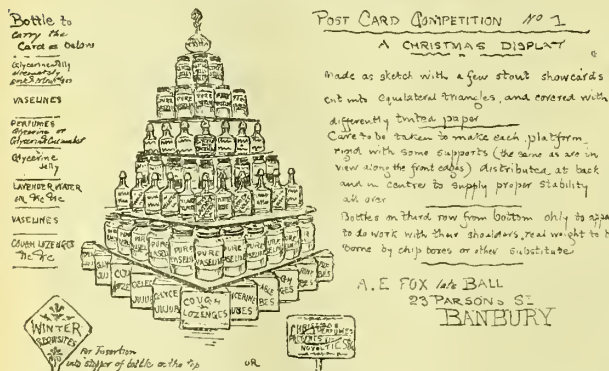
F. BAILES, 130 Landor Road, Stockwell, S.W.

The annexed sketch is from Mr. S. T. FLETCHER, 113 The Grove, Hammersmith, who adds the following explanation:—"Letters are dummy proprietaries, stuck on wooden frames. Bottom of window cotton-wool, with letters worked with



boxes of pills in various colours. The whole window made like fallen snow with flakes of cotton-wool. The cod-liver oil letters to be wool letters on dark ground, with red berries."

SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.



W. J. WEBB, 20 John's Road, Bedminster.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS.

Chemists should entirely rearrange their shop-windows and display tastefully all their own specialities, such as neuralgia,

cough, and indigestion mixtures, also liniments and essences for winter drinks, &c. All these to be put up in suitable and nicely-labelled bottles, then interspersed with Christmas requisites for presents, such as odorators, cut-glass bottles, smelling-salts, toilet-boxes, &c. This must be done a week before Christmas, and if taste is carried out throughout the chemist's windows will attract as much as others. Give prominence to the best goods, and draw custom to the shop by presenting to customers an almanac taking the form of a sweetly-scented blotter, size $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $8\frac{1}{2}$; on the outside cover, which should be of the best American cloth (any pretty colour), an engraving of the pharmacy, and on the inside front cover a list of specialities, such as soaps, scents, winter cream, neuralgia, cough, and other mixtures with the almanac in the centre. To be headed "Christmas Requisites—all at Store Prices." The cost is small, and this gift would be appreciated by all. The pharmacy (always at hand) would stand before the grocer's shop.

M. ARTHUR, Great Yarmouth.

Have four rows of shelving in pyramid style, to run whole length of window. On the bottom close up to window place on cotton-wool boxes of cough-lozenge, camphor balls, and respirators. Then arrange on three of the shelves about one and a half dozen of each of the following—say, six on the first, second, and third shelves, so as to form a mass of one kind: cod-liver oil, emulsion of cod-liver oil, extract of malt and cod-liver oil, glycerine, chemical food, cough-mixture, with a small space between each kind, which could be filled in with tapers or Spanish juice.

On the top shelf place meat and malt wine, calves'-feet jelly, quinine wine, bronchitis-kettles, and food-warmers. Upon glass shelves either at sides or up to window place glycerine and cucumber, glycerine jelly, vaseline, smelling-bottles, and perfumes. Hang a hot-water bag and a few lung-protectors from roof of window-casement.

All to be dummies where possible, nicely put up, and good clean tickets, with price, on each lot of articles. J. S.

THE AWARDS.

It will be seen that only a few competitors get away from the conventional styles of window-dressing, but the results are, on the whole, encouraging, and the competition is likely to be of assistance in fostering greater attention to this important department of the retail druggist's business. We shall send half-a-guinea to each of the following:—

Mr. A. E. FOX, for his pyramidal sketch, which is well drawn, explicitly described, and effective for counter or window display.

Mr. HOARE, for his simple and striking arrangement of a cod-liver oil boat on alum ice, with background of Winchester, &c.

Mr. H. L. HUNT, for his castellated arrangement, which is not without originality, and there is about it a certain boldness which would suit well those large modern windows which are so difficult to fill.

One of the best sketches sent in is that of Mr. Lenfestey, with the skeleton in the foreground. To this designer and Messrs. Dowswell and Bennett we shall have pleasure in sending a copy of any of our published text-books for chemists or a copy of the 1893 DIARY as a recognition of merit. These gentlemen will please name which book they would prefer.

The competition for the present month is on the DIARY advertisements. With each copy of the DIARY we sent out a coupon through which we hope to obtain the opinion of the trade on the following points:—

1. Which advertiser has produced the most effective advertisement?
2. Select the cleverest thing you find among the advertisements. You may indicate an entire advertisement, or you may pick out some feature, some phrase, some paragraph, some apposite illustration, or some characteristic from any part of the advertisements.
3. Which advertisement in your opinion is likely to produce the best results to the advertiser?
4. Which is the best illustration among the advertisements? (If there are two on the same page, be sure to indicate which you refer to.)
5. Which trade-mark (design) among the advertisements strikes you as the happiest?
6. Which title of a speciality among the advertisements do you regard as the best?

7. Vote for what you consider the best page among the advertisements.
 8. Vote for what you consider the best half-page among the advertisements.
 9. Vote for what you consider the most effective advertisement occupying less than half a page.

When we get all the returns in from the United Kingdom we shall classify the votes and award money prizes to those who come nearest the estimate of the whole of the voters combined. Only one coupon is sent out with each DIARY, and it may be filled in by the recipient, or handed over to any of his staff or members of his family. Replies should be received not later than December 31.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held on December 7, at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 P.M. Present: The President (Mr. William Hayes) in the chair; Mr. Beggs, Vice-President; and Messrs. Baxter, Montgomery, Wells, Gibson, Conyngham, Charles Evans, Boyd, Merrin, Dr. Burnes, Downes, and Professor Tichborne.

THE GOVERNMENT VISITOR ON THE EXAMINATIONS.

A letter was received from the Privy Council enclosing a copy of the report of Dr. George W. Duffey, the Lord Lieutenant's visitor, on the Society's examinations held during the year. The following is the document:—

30 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin, November 30, 1892.

May it Please Your Excellency,—I have to submit the following report on the Examinations of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland for candidates for the qualification of pharmaceutical chemist, that have been held during the year 1892.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

On January 1, 1892, new regulations for this examination, as approved by order of Her Majesty's Privy Council in Ireland of September 15, 1891, came into force. The chief changes consist in the addition to the former examination in Latin, English and arithmetic, of algebra, as far as simple equations inclusive, and of geometry, including the first book of Euclid. Instead, also, of an examination in the rudiments of botany and chemistry and physics being compulsory, the candidate must now pass in one at least of the following optional subjects:—

Elementary Physics and Mechanics.—Sound, light, and heat, as given in "Ganot's Elementary Course of Natural Philosophy." Mechanics of solids and fluids, comprising the elements of statics, dynamics, and hydrostatics.

The Rudiments of Botany.—"Oliver's Lessons in Elementary Botany," part 1.

Elementary Chemistry.—As included in "Roscoe's Lessons in Elementary Chemistry," chapters 1 to 13 inclusive.

French, German, or any Modern Language.

The examinations were held quarterly, as usual. I attended on each occasion, and had opportunities of reading the written answers of several candidates, and of hearing their oral examination in Euclid. Fifty-three candidates presented themselves, of whom 35 (or 66 per cent.) passed, and 18 (=34 per cent.) were rejected. This is the highest percentage of passes at the Preliminary examination for the past seven years, as a glance at the table given in my last report will show. The average of the answering of the successful candidates was 55.5 per cent. The highest answering of a candidate was 78 per cent. Twelve obtained between 60 and 71 per cent. inclusive. Of the 53 candidates, 16 had been rejected at one or two previous examinations during the preceding year; 9 of this number were re-examined under the old regulations (1 twice), and 4 passed, and 7 elected to present themselves under the new ones. Two of the latter were re-examined a third time; 1 of these 2, with 2 others, passed; the remainder were again rejected. Thirty-three candidates presented themselves for examination for the first time; of these 27 (=82 per cent.) passed, and 6 were rejected. One of the latter (a woman) passed at a later examination during the year.

A classification of the causes of the rejections shows that—

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | failed in all subjects. |
| 1 | English, arithmetic, weights and measures, and 2 other subjects. |
| 2 | English, arithmetic, weights and measures, and 1 other subject. |
| 4 | English, arithmetic, and weights and measures. |
| 1 | English and arithmetic. |
| 1 | English, algebra, and geometry. |
| 3 | English alone. |
| 2 | Arithmetic, weights and measures, and Latin. |

Total 18

The majority of the failures were, therefore, in English and in arithmetic.

According to the system of marking for this examination now adopted by the Council of the Society for the guidance of the examiner, "in each of the following subjects a candidate must obtain 50 per cent.—viz., (1) English, (2) arithmetic, and (3) the British and metrical system of weights and measures, and 40 per cent. on the entire course to enable him to pass." Of the 31 candidates under the new regulations who were allowed the examination, 8 failed to secure the required percentage in English, 5 in weights and measures, and 1 in both arithmetic and weights and measures. However, "should a candidate's general information and intelligence entitle him, in the examiner's judgment, to pass, though he may not in some one subject have attained to the standard laid down, the examiner is at liberty to pass him, subject to the ratification of the Council."

Although such does not appear from the information with which I have been furnished, it is to be presumed that the necessary ratification of the examiner's judgment was formally given by the Council in each of these fourteen cases. In at least one-half of them there does seem to have been, in my opinion, adequate reason for such leniency. By allowing all these candidates the examination, the percentage of rejections for the year was lowered by 23 per cent. Nearly one-fourth (8 out of 35) of the passed candidates are now entitled to proceed in due course to their examination for the licence, with a record against them of having failed to obtain the standard of passing marks required in their own language.

One of these successful candidates wrote an essay on "The General Election." It consisted of nine lines only of manuscript. The following are excerpts:—"Parliament," "During Queen's Victoria reign." "The Elections will take place in Dublin next Wednesday, and I hope it will pass off quietly." From his dictation the following specimens are taken:—"condemned," "refractory," "Ca'maties," "Gloomey." He was very properly given low marks in English; but although they were below the specified standard he was passed—probably because he scored full marks in arithmetic, and high marks in two other subjects.

As might be expected from the fact that the same subjects are examined in at the subsequent examination for the licence, the optional subjects chiefly chosen were chemistry and botany. Of the 43 candidates who were examined under the new regulations, 20 selected chemistry, 12 botany, 2 chemistry and botany, 1 botany and physics, and 8 French.

Notwithstanding that the subjects the candidates are examined in have been increased in number and in variety, and the time occupied in the examination lengthened, it is still conducted by only one examiner. The competency of the present examiner is not questioned; but for obvious reasons—some of which are given in my former reports—it is, I submit, undesirable that this examination, which the Society justly attaches much importance to, should be in the hands of a single examiner. Such a plan has, I believe, no analogue in the examinations of any other important licensing corporate body. Under existing circumstances I trust the Council of the Society will now see no difficulty in appointing a second examiner to take part in the Preliminary examination (*vide* report, January, 1893, and remarks thereon by Council). Regulation IV. as to examiners (Order of Council, December 30, 1836, *vide Calendar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland*, 1892, page 95) should, I presume, in any case be amended (if permission to have done so has not already been obtained), by altering Clause I. so as to make it include the subjects of the present Preliminary examination.

LICENCE EXAMINATION.

Forty candidates presented themselves for this qualification during the year. Thirty-four, or 85 per cent., passed. This is the highest standard that has been attained during the seven years the examinations have been reported upon, and, I believe, since the incorporation of the Society in 1875. At the July examination all the candidates—twelve in number—were successful.

It is satisfactory to note that while the thoroughness and standard of this examination is fully maintained, the percentage of candidates that pass has steadily increased. These results show that there has been considerable improvement in the instruction of the candidates. "Cramming," so much in evidence in former years, is gradually giving place to a more thorough and systematic plan of education. The proposal to establish a museum of materia medica, which, I perceive, is under the consideration of the Council of the Society, and a further development of its school, would if carried out, tend to further improve the scientific and practical education of the pharmaceutical chemists of Ireland, and, as a natural consequence, materially advance the status of the members of the Society.

Mr. John Evans's period of office as examiner in pharmacy having expired in August, Mr. T. W. Robinson was elected to succeed him, and took part in the October examination. The examination in practical pharmacy on this occasion embraced a large range of subjects; its details were well thought out, and an increased supply of apparatus was at the disposal of the examiner.

It affords me pleasure to repeat the opinion I expressed in both my previous annual reports, that the examination for the licence of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland is a satisfactory and carefully conducted one. According to my observation, the Council and examiners of the Society

have made every effort during the year to assure themselves of the fitness and competency of all who obtained the licence.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE F. DUFFEY, M.D., Visitor.

On the motion of Mr. WELLS, it was arranged that the report should be discussed at the next meeting.

IRELAND AND CAPE COLONY.

Mr. Nightingale, Secretary of the Pharmacy Board of the Cape of Good Hope, wrote acknowledging the receipt of a copy of the Society's Calendar, and enclosing a copy of the Regulations of the Pharmacy Board. Mr. Nightingale directed attention to the fact that the licence of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland was recognised by the Pharmacy Board of the Cape. In another letter, dated October 28, he asked if the Society would admit persons who had qualified under the Cape Pharmacy Board to practise in Ireland.

The PRESIDENT: I suppose the answer must be that our Acts do not permit us to recognise any persons as pharmaceutical chemists here save those who have been examined by us.

Mr. WELLS: And that we regret to be obliged to say so. Our Act is similar in this respect, to the English one.

Order accordingly.

CHEMISTS' WIDOWS AND THE SALE OF POISONS.

A letter was read from Head Constable Elders, R.I.C., Waterford, reporting that on November 25 Mrs. Mary E. Poole, of that town, was fined 5*l.* at Petty Sessions for compounding medical prescriptions without being entitled to do so. There was a second summons against her, the writer stated, for illegally dispensing poisons, but the magistrates dismissed it without going into the charge. Mrs. Poole had an assistant who was a qualified druggist, and the magistrates intimated that, as they thought she believed she was consequently acting within the law, they would recommend a reduction of the fine if she sent forward a memorial asking it. On the part of the prosecution a letter had been tendered in evidence to show that Mrs. Poole had been previously cautioned, but her solicitor objected to its being admitted. No notice of appeal against the dismissal of the summons for the violation of the Poisons Act had been given, but the Head Constable stated that he would give it if the Council desired. He believed the fine of 5*l.* would have a salutary effect, and he was confident that if she sent a memorial asking for abatement of the fine, it would be refused.

The PRESIDENT: It is not to us that her memorial would come.

Mr. WELLS: Oh, no—to the Castle.

The PRESIDENT said he had not recommended an appeal against the dismissal of the second summons. He trusted the Council were satisfied that he was right.

Mr. BOYD: Is this lady the widow of a chemist and druggist?

The PRESIDENT: Yes. We have been in communication with her. She wanted to come in for examination.

Mr. WELLS: She wanted to be allowed to continue to sell poisons.

The PRESIDENT: By employing a qualified assistant; but we recommended her to give it up, as the quantity of poisons she would sell would not be sufficient to enable her to employ a qualified assistant.

Mr. WELLS: She had not only been selling poisons, but for a considerable time dispensing prescriptions.

Mr. BOYD: How long is her husband dead?

Mr. WELLS: About six months.

THE PRACTICAL PHARMACY CERTIFICATE.

The PRESIDENT read a letter which he had received from Mr. Isaac Davison requesting that a practical pharmacy certificate which he forwarded should be accepted. The letter stated that Mr. Davison had been for over two years in the employment of Dr. Dougan, who kept open shop in Portadown, for the dispensing of prescriptions, and that he had done all the compounding work in his shop every day from 8 A.M. until 1 P.M., and again from 6 P.M. until 10 P.M.

Mr. WELLS said No. 8 of their regulations required that the certificates of candidates presenting themselves for the

Pharmaceutical Licence examination should be submitted to a committee, whose duty it was to satisfy themselves that the certificates granted "guarantee a *bona fide* engagement of the regular work of a pharmacy during the period." This gentleman wrote to the Council, and seemed to assume that his certificate would not be accepted. But his certificate had not gone before the Certificates Committee at all.

The PRESIDENT said Mr. Davison's case had been considered informally by several members of the Certificates Committee, and it was indicated pretty plainly that when the matter came before them they would throw the young man out. He (the President) had inquired into Mr. Davison's antecedents, and when he found how things were he asked him to write a letter to the President, which could be brought before the Council; if they should decide that he was not eligible for examination he would only have to qualify in the usual way. But he (the President) believed that Mr. Davison had qualified as well as any young man that ever came up for examination.

Mr. WELLS: Before you enter upon a discussion as to the merits of the case, I ask you to rule whether, having regard to the by-law, it is competent for the Council to deal with the case before it has been considered and reported on by the Certificates Committee.

Mr. BOYD supported this request.

The PRESIDENT: I think we are quite in order in discussing the case; but at the same time I am ready to take the opinion of the Council on the point.

Professor TICHBORNE and Mr. MONTGOMERY were of opinion that the Certificates Committee should, in the first instance, enter upon the matter. Mr. DOWNES moved, and the VICE-PRESIDENT seconded, that the case be remitted to them. This course was adopted.

REGISTERED BUT NOT QUALIFIED.

Mr. W. C. Hendry wrote complaining that men who were really ineligible had been registered in a wholesale manner.

Mr. WELLS: I suggest that this letter be referred to the Law Committee. I said at the annual meeting that men had been registered whom the committee did not approve of, and that if Mr. Hendry would give us the names of others not properly qualified, we would endeavour to have their names taken off the roll.

The PRESIDENT: Has he given any further particulars since?

The REGISTRAR: No.

The letter was referred to the Law Committee.

THE DECEMBER EXAMINATIONS.

Reports from the examiners upon the examinations held in December for registered druggists were laid on the table. At the Dublin examination there were two candidates, both rejected; while at Belfast two candidates presented themselves, and both of them passed.

THE CALENDAR.

Dr. WHITLA suggested that the Arsenic Act should be added to the Calendar.

The PRESIDENT: I have already directed Mr. Ferrall to carry out that suggestion.

A discussion took place upon an offer of an advertisement for insertion in the Calendar.

Professor TICHBORNE, the VICE-PRESIDENT, and Dr. BURNES seemed disinclined to accept advertisements.

Professor TICHBORNE thought if any were taken they should be only school advertisements.

A COLLECTION OF MATERIA MEDICA SPECIMENS

was offered to the Society by Dr. Ninian Falkiner. On the motion of Mr. CHARLES EVANS, seconded by Dr. BURNES, the thanks of the Council were voted to Dr. Falkiner for his donation, which was gratefully accepted.

A BELFAST SCHOOL.

The Sub-Committee appointed to visit the chemical laboratory conducted by Mr. S. Templeton, at 44 Dublin Road, Belfast, consisting of Messrs. Payne, Montgomery, Johnston, Lyons and Dr. Whitla, reported that it was fully equipped with every requisite for the study of chemistry.

Mr. MONTGOMERY moved, and Mr. WELLS seconded, that Mr. Templeton's school be recognised by the Council. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

PROCEDURE.

The PRESIDENT moved the following resolutions :—

- That, as the Preliminary examination in April, 1893, will fall on Easter Monday, the examination be held on the following Tuesday.
- That the office of the Society be closed to the public during August in each year; and that the Registrar's holidays be arranged for the most convenient part of that month.
- That the Registered Druggist examinations, at Dublin, be held on the Thursday following each Pharmaceutical Licence examination, instead of the dates as at present.

Mr. CHARLES EVANS seconded the resolutions.

In reply to Mr. Montgomery, the PRESIDENT said the resolution relating to the Registered Druggists' examination would affect Belfast, as the examination there followed the week after the Dublin one.

The resolutions were unanimously passed.

STATUTORY DECLARATIONS REQUIRED.

Mr. WELLS moved—

That on and after Jan. 1, 1893, the words "statutory declaration" shall be substituted for the word "certificate" wherever the latter word is used in Regulations 2, 3, and 8, relating to the examination for the Pharmaceutical Licence, in referring to the lodgment of proof of service at practical pharmacy.

The regulations require that a candidate for the Licence examination shall have spent at least two years in compounding and dispensing in the establishment of a pharmacist or apothecary keeping open shop, and that he shall produce from his employer a certificate that he has done so. The object of the motion was to make the proof of service include a statutory declaration from the employer. At present the Certificate Committee were constantly involved in difficulty respecting certificates given by men whom they did not know to be pharmacists in business. If the present motion were passed a printed form of declaration could be provided by the Registrar, similar to those used for the chemists and druggists, and the candidate would send in this declaration, on oath, before being admitted to be examined. At that moment there were certificates before the committee which he had good reason to believe were not *bona fide*. Mr. Wells moved a further resolution making it imperative upon all candidates for the licence after January 1, 1893, to make statutory declarations of service themselves. There would be no hardship in requiring their employers to do what the chemists and druggists had to do at present.

Mr. MONTGOMERY seconded the motions.

Mr. DOWNES said he thought it was fair enough to require the candidate to make the statutory declaration; but it was another thing to ask the employer to do so.

Mr. GIBSON agreed with Mr. Downes that the certificate from the candidate would be enough.

Mr. WELLS: You compel every druggist to make it; and there was only one instance in which a druggist employer refused to do so. Even if the pharmacist employer should refuse to make the declaration, we should still have the power of accepting the one made by the candidate as sufficient.

Mr. DOWNES moved in amendment that the proposed new rule should not apply to the employers. Mr. GIBSON seconded the amendment, which was put and lost, and Mr. Wells's resolutions were put and carried.

NO PAY, NO "C. & D."

Mr. WELLS then moved that on and after January 1, 1893, the supply of the journal be stopped to all members who had not paid their subscriptions for the current year.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded the motion, which was carried *nem. con.*

PENSIONS FOR POOR-LAW DISPENSERS.

Mr. CONYINGHAM said a movement was on foot by the medical profession to get Poor-law Boards to grant pensions to their retiring medical officers. He thought a similar movement should be made in favour of Poor-law pharmaceutical dispensers.

The PRESIDENT: Put a notice of motion on the subject on the paper for the next Council meeting.

NEW MEMBERS.

On the motion of Mr. C. EVANS, seconded by the PRESIDENT, Mr. Hugh A. Kelso, of Wanganui, New Zealand, was elected a member of the Society.

On the motion of Mr. WELLS, seconded by the PRESIDENT, Mr. Robert S. Chapman, of the Medical Hall, Donegal, and Mr. James Hill, of Castle Street, Strabane, were elected members.

On the motion of Mr. LYONS, seconded by the PRESIDENT, Mr. Samuel L. Cleland, of Eia Street, Antrim Road, Belfast, and Mr. Andrew C. McBride, of Armagh, were elected members.

On the motion of Mr. WELLS, Mr. J. B. Alister was nominated for election.

The Council then adjourned.

The Winter Session.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

RIVIERA BOTANY.

If Mr. Holmes had been able to provide Riviera weather on Wednesday night he might have had a larger audience to hear his paper on "The Riviera: its botanical features, with special reference to its medicinal plants." The notes for this he had collected while attending the Genoa Botanical Congress along with Professor Green, and most of the plants described were seen from the train. As soon as they got through the St. Gothard Tunnel they saw plenty of *Origanum vulgare*, and not far on bright white patches of buckwheat and yellow ones of Indian corn, both under cultivation. By-and-by they came to clumps of *Acacia Farnesiana* (the cassie), *Mentha Pulegium*, *Xanthium spinosa*, recommended for hydrophobia some time ago, mulberry-trees, olives, roses, and many other plants more or less common. Next came a surprise in the shape of lantern-views: first, the Hanbury Institute, presented by Mr. Thomas Hanbury to Genoa—a handsome four-storeyed building, behind which a botanic garden spreads to the University. Then came a view of "La Morbola," Mr. Hanbury's residence, situated on a declivity with 4,000 feet of hill above it. The magnificence of the situation and the gardens was well exhibited in the series of views. Here Mr. Hanbury has brought every plant which will grow in the open air, and particular sections of the fifty-acre garden are reserved for special cultures. Thus in one ravine aquatic plants are grown; at another part agave and aloes flourish abundantly, and in another clumps of *Eucalypti*, among them *E. Staigeriana*, and solitary and grand, a giant *E. Globulus*, planted in 1869. There also is to be seen the storax-tree from which Daniel Hanbury got the first tears of storax shed in Europe—in short, the garden is full of interesting specimens, and even Kew people come away from it with new facts and fresh ideas. The pressing of peach kernels by means of a water-power edge-runner was described; the kernels are put in small globe-shaped bags, from which oil exudes and is allowed to settle before it is placed in skin receptacles. To the paper Mr. Holmes added a brief account of what had been done at the Genoa Conference, the work done consisting of three resolutions:—First, that the year 1753 should be recognised as the date from which recognition starts; second, that a name without description should not be recognised, nor should a picture without diagnosis; and, thirdly, a committee was appointed to look after international botanical matters.

Mr. W. GOWEN CROSS, who presided, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Holmes, incidentally referring to the services which the Hanburys—Daniel and Thomas—had done to the Pharmaceutical Society.

Professor GREEN next took up the subject, and, addressing himself to his students, spoke of the peculiarities of *Casuarina*, a composite tree, the inflorescence of an *Agave* with buds which grow when planted; *Muellura aurantiaca*, whose fruit is an aggregation of succulent flowers, and which exudes when cut a succulent juice like indiarubber; and an *Opuntia*, whose barbed spines stick closer than a brother.

Mr. MARTINDALE has gone over the same journey lately, and he gave an account of his experiences. He went through Spain, and from Gibraltar to Genoa, where he found that pharmacists were better known than botanists, especially Mr. Cartelhe and "an ubiquitous American" who represents a well-known drug-house. Of his experiences he gave an interesting account, speaking with enthusiasm of "La Mortola" gardens; but there are others at Cannes and Mentone which he equally admired. Under Mr. Arthur Warrick's guidance he visited the flower-farms at Grasse, and showed specimens of cassia-flowers which were being worked when he was there. He considered that English pharmacy is in a good condition on the Mediterranean seaboard; dispensing prices are good, and retail prices are higher. When gum arabic was 2s. a lb. they got 1 franc an oz. for it. The sale of specialities, particularly American, has largely increased. Owing to the tariff war between France and Italy it is very difficult to get things from one country into the other, and an example of this was given in a certain mosquito-cure, made in Italy, which is actually prohibited from entering into France.

Mr. ALLEN deplored the lamentable fact that so few members of the Society came out to these meetings, and expressed the hope that better attendances would be seen during the rest of the session.

Mr. REAVES, a Melbourne pharmacist, was invited to speak and expressed the pleasure which he had experienced in attending the meeting, and, on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, thanked the Vice-President for the kind terms in which he referred to Australian pharmacy.

Messrs. LLOYD WILLIAMS, A. G. BAKER, and A. W. GERRARD also spoke, and Mr. HOLMES replied.

THE SPECIMENS

exhibited included two fine photographic groups of the Congressionists, mostly swarthy Southrons, and some water colours depicting Mr. Thomas Hanbury's lovely home, showing a yellow, red-turreted building facing the blue Mediterranean, and overlooking the old town of Bordighera and the village of Ventimiglia, small white spots nestling at the foot of the green hills. "La Mortola" has recently been rebuilt and enlarged by its owner. There were also upon the table botanical specimens brought over by Mr. Holmes, among which branches of the Colombian *Schinus molle*, with its clusters of red and pink berries, and specimens of the *Maclura aurantiaca* were the most noticeable. Mr. Martindale also presented a cork-oak walking-stick brought by him from Lisbon, and some samples of green olives.

CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

DR. LAUDER BRUNTON visited Great Russell Street last Thursday evening (December 9), and there was a very good company to hear his lecture on "Impurities and Mistakes." It was an exceedingly entertaining and instructive lecture, and was followed closely by the members. Speaking of the mistakes of physicians, Dr. Brunton recalled one of his own, which happened seventeen years ago. He prescribed "ext. opii 5j," intending the liquid extract; fortunately the chemist noticed the error, and Dr. Brunton has been careful ever since to add the "liq." and to prefix "fl." to "3" or "5" when dealing with active substances. He then proceeded to speak of nurses' mistakes, incidentally mentioning that there is no available record of a case of infantile poisoning with a drop of laudanum; and from this he proceeded to the mistakes of chemists, treating this, however, very briefly and happily. The only case quoted was that of a Virginia chemist, who dispensed oil of cajuput for oil of cade, with the result that a child was cured of an eczema which all the doctor's skill had failed to subdue. This led up to the section on impurities. Dr. Brunton said it was his belief that the good results of many drugs are due to impurities, or, at least, that the action of the drug is aided by that of the impurity. This is true especially in the case of preparations of mercury. For instance, in the preparation of grey powder oxide is formed to a greater or less extent, and instead of insisting upon the powder being free from oxide, the Pharmacopoeia should see that it is always present. So, too, in regard to calomel. There are some pills in the market, each containing $\frac{1}{20}$ grain

of calomel, which are very active. Dr. Brunton once prescribed ten of these to a doctor suffering from hepatic disease. He scouted the idea of taking $\frac{1}{2}$ grain of calomel, saying that he usually took 10 grains at a dose. He took them, however, and next day he said to Dr. Brunton, "Oh, doctor, 10 grains of calomel never turned me out like these little pills!" Dr. Brunton suspected that they contained some corrosive sublimate, and his suspicions were confirmed by Mr. Wallis, of Allen & Hanbrys, who analysed them. He has made trials with similar pills prepared with pure calomel, but has not been so pleased with their action. The moral that he drew from this was that pharmacists should endeavour to find out how the mercury exists in such preparations, so that doctors may be able to prescribe the active ingredient in more definite form. He reminded the meeting that Professor Rutherford had found calomel to be but a feeble hepatic stimulant, whereas mercuric chloride is a powerful one.

Attention was next called to the presence of tellurium in bismuth salts. This impurity appears to be very prevalent just now, and the out-patients' room of St. Bartholomew's Hospital smells some days like an onion-bed. Professor Dunstan examined a sample of the bismuth which was used in the institution, and found tellurium in it. Dr. Brunton has noticed the tellurium smell a month after a patient has ceased taking bismuth, and this led him to remark that not only is the impurity an exceedingly persistent one, but the human body seems to be a more delicate reagent for tellurium than the test given in the B.P., as several of these samples passed all the B.P. tests.

The next group of impurities discussed were those of alcohol. Reference was made to the recent Spirits Commission, and the probable impurities of spirits were discussed in detail. Dr. Brunton believed that the headache which often follows spirit-drinking is due to some nitrogenous body, for the headache is extremely like that of nitro-glycerine. It is generally believed that the bad effect of some spirits is due to the presence of amyl alcohol, but it is more probable that the injury is caused not by the bodies belonging to the paraffin series, but by those of the aromatic series, such as pyridine and picoline, and those of the intermediate furfuran group. This group was investigated in regard to its physiological action by Creel, who found that furfuran, C_4H_4O , produces first a brief period of excitement, followed by drowsiness, and finally by death. Furfural has a similar action, but causes greater excitability. Furfural (the aldehyde of the series) is more toxic than furfural, the action on the cerebrum being different.

Dr. Brunton quoted the results of experiments upon animals with the substances mentioned in the preceding paragraph, and added, "Those who are opposed to experiments on animals urge that they are useless. They even declare that Harvey did not discover the circulation of the blood by means of these experiments, although Harvey says he did, and he ought to know. It was my good fortune to discover the utility in medicine of amyl nitrite as a remedy for angina pectoris. I have seen it stated that this discovery did not follow from vivisection experiments. I ought to know the facts of the case, and I say the discovery did result from such experiments. Dr. Richardson found it was an anti-spasmodic." Professor Gamgee had experimented upon it, and Dr. Brunton, then a young graduate, assisted him. They found that the nitrites had a powerful influence upon the arterial walls, and shortly after, while he was a house physician in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, Dr. Brunton had an angina pectoris patient upon whom he had tried all the regulation drugs without effect. While examining a sphygmographic diagram of the patient's pulse he noticed that just when the attack came on there was a jump the opposite of what occurred with amyl nitrite. He resolved to try the nitrite, and the result was immediate relief. "I am sure," added Dr. Brunton, "that in a single fortnight that poor fellow suffered more than all the animals used in the experiments performed to acquire our knowledge of the drug."

Dr. Brunton then referred to the impurities existing in commercial nitrite of amyl, and how such impurities may lead to variation in the action on different patients. Again, in many plants there appear various bodies having different and often antagonistic action, as is the case in jaborandi, where pilocarpine and jaborine have entirely opposite actions. Thus different experimenters may easily arrive at different

results, though using a preparation more or less free from the antagonistic body. Here, then, is a field of experiment which the pharmacist may fitly explore, and the lecturer urged that by doing so they would be benefiting humanity. On the motion of Mr. MACEWAN, seconded by Mr. MILLARD, and supported by Mr. LLOYD WILLIAMS, the lecturer was very heartily thanked for the service he had done the Association. Dr. MACNAUGHTON JONES also spoke, and Dr. BRUNTON briefly replied.

GLASGOW PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.

TERRITORIAL REPRESENTATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

ON December 8 the Glasgow Pharmaceutical Association discussed the scheme of reconstruction of the Pharmaceutical Society formulated by Mr. Charles Thompson, President of the Midland Counties Chemists' Association. Mr. Thompson, it may be remembered, advocates that each councillor should be elected by a particular district, should represent a certain definite body of pharmacists, and be responsible to that body for what he does and what he says. At least once a year he should meet his constituents, at his own centre, and address them, whilst they in turn would address him.

The PRESIDENT (Mr. W. L. Currie), in opening the discussion, pointed out that the first thing to be kept in view was the desirability of every registered chemist and druggist becoming associated with the Pharmaceutical Society. Until that was done they could command no feeling towards members of Council. They must remember also that before a scheme of reform such as Mr. Thompson suggested could be carried out, a new Act of Parliament must be passed. In any such Act they must insist on a provision dealing with limited liability companies. Unless that was included in the Bill, it would have no chance of receiving the support of the general body of chemists and druggists.

Mr. LAING said he had never joined the Pharmaceutical Society himself, although he considered it was the right thing for every druggist in business to be associated with the Society. If the Pharmaceutical Society had been alive to its responsibilities, the conditions of pharmacy would have been better than they were, and every registered chemist would have found it a pleasure to be a member of the Society. However, he should now—not for any benefit to himself, but with the intention of doing benefit to others of his calling—join the Pharmaceutical Society, if they cared to have him. (Laughter and applause.) The system of territorial representation was the one thing that chemists desired, and if they could get men desirous of joining the Council who would come and speak to them face to face, he thought in a very short time they would be able to command attention both from the general public and from Parliament.

Mr. ROBB held that all assistants who became members of the Pharmaceutical Society should have an opportunity of influencing the policy of the Society. The suggested territorial division of the country he thought would result in increased interest being taken in the affairs of the Society.

Mr. ADAM thought it would be an inducement for more chemists to join the Pharmaceutical Society if the word "member" were substituted for "associate." He did not expect that legislation could do much for them in suppressing the stores. The spirit of the age was against privilege, and no Parliament would, in his opinion, pass a Bill granting privileges to chemists. They would have to fight the stores as they did the patent medicines. To ask assistants not to accept employment in the stores was against human nature. The stores, as a rule, paid better salaries than the master-chemists, and the hours were better.

Mr. ROBINSON was dubious about the proposed change in the method of representation. There might be some enthusiasm at first, but very soon the trade would fall back again into its condition of apathetic indifference. He approved of the plan of having schools of pharmacy in provincial districts, such as the one in Sheffield, which should be under the same government as the London school.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT hoped that the territorial system of representation would soon become an accomplished fact. Parliament would have no more compunction in granting special privileges to chemists than to medical men and to lawyers.

Mr. BOYD alluded to the difficulty there would be in passing a Pharmacy Bill that would attempt to deal with the limited company question. There would be strenuous opposition, and it was very hard to get an opposed Bill through Parliament. He would look for more good from a spirit of etiquette pervading the unqualified men themselves, in refusing to work under the limited companies. United action of that sort would soon result in the companies having to shut up shop, because they could not get on without qualified men.

Mr. RUSSELL believed that permanent good would result from a scheme of territorial representation. He suggested that London should have one representative fewer and Scotland one more.

Mr. MOIR agreed that a scheme of territorial representation was the only way in which the Pharmaceutical Society could be made popular. A new Pharmacy Bill would, at any rate, call the attention of Parliament to their position, and, if unsuccessful in carrying through a measure of reform, they might, perhaps, get a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the working of the present Act. Mr. Moir moved a resolution to the effect that the Glasgow Association heartily approved of the principle of divisional representation, and, while looking upon it as a step in the right direction of obtaining a popular Pharmaceutical Council, would desire to point out that any Bill to be presented before Parliament must provide not only for the reconstruction of the Society on the principle laid down in the scheme, but also for the eligibility of all registered chemists and druggists for election, the establishment of educational classes in each district, the abolition of the Major examination, the Minor examination to be, if necessary, a little more stringent, the existing Act to be amended as regards limited liability companies, the original meaning of the word "seller" to be restored so as to include the responsibility of the proprietor, greater restrictions to be made in the sale of poisons, and medical men keeping open shops for supplying the public with drugs to keep qualified men.

This comprehensive proposal led to much and varied discussion. It was ultimately seconded by Mr. BOYD, on the understanding that the reference to medical men should be deleted from the resolution. In this form it was adopted and remitted to a committee to draft the clauses approved for presentation to the next meeting of the Association.

The PRESIDENT mentioned that every chemist in the West End of Glasgow was now a member of the Association. That, he added, had never hitherto been the case in the annals of pharmacy in Glasgow. The President next stated that he had received an invitation from the Chemists' Assistants' Association of London, appealing to them in Scotland to approve of limiting the hours of labour for assistants to at least seventy-four in the week. He thought they were all in sympathy with that resolution. (Hear, hear.)

This ended the business.

LIVERPOOL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the Royal Institution on December 8, when a paper on "Bromide Enlargements," written by Mr. E. T. Ainley, of Birkenhead, was read by Mr. Anthony S. Bnck. The new President, Mr. J. Hocken, occupied the chair.

LIVERPOOL PHARMACEUTICAL STUDENTS' SOCIETY.

AT this week's meeting in the Botanical Laboratories, University College, on Thursday, the President and Council met the members at 8 o'clock for social intercourse and with the purpose of becoming more familiar with the advantages of the Botanical Laboratories. There was an interesting exhibit of microscopical and botanical specimens by Messrs. J. R. Johnson, R. C. Cowley, Harold Wyatt, jun., A. E. Lomax, and T. S. Wokes.

DRYING DIGITALIS.—According to O. Falkenberg (*Pharm. Ztg.*), digitalis leaves, to preserve their medicinal properties in the highest possible degree, should be dried in tin-lined boxes over unslaked lime.



Notice to Retail Buyers.—It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large quantities in bulk. In many cases allowances have to be added before ordinary prices can be ascertained. Frequently goods must be picked and sorted to suit the demands of the retail trade, causing much labour and the accumulation of rejections, not all of which are suitable, even for manufacturing purposes.

It should also be recollected that for many articles the range of quality is very wide.

New York.

Our New York correspondent writes, on December 6, that there is little beyond a general jobbing business under way, although the dealings in small lots are fairly satisfactory in number. *Cascara sagrada* is weaker and the demand is slack, and prices have declined, so that now supplies could be had at 8c. on the spot, while for arrival this might be shaded. A thousand pounds of Huancoco *Coca* leaves sold at 45c. *Balsam Peru* is easier at \$1.05. HGH *Peppermint oil* is again weaker and has sold at \$2.50 in round lots, as compared with \$2.52½ last week. No open quotations are made at less than \$2.50 to \$2.60. *Curaçao Aloe*s are firmer at 3c. to 3½c., the stocks being reported rather light. Sales of *Jalap* have been made aggregating 6,000 lbs., the larger portion of which went to manufacturers direct. The prices are not given out, but it is understood that 28c. to 29c. was paid. Quotations now stand at 30c. to 32c. *Senega* is reported slightly easier both here and in the West. Twenty-four bales were shipped to Bremen during the past week, and one to the Mediterranean. It is now quoted at 55c. to 60c. Mexican *Sarsaparilla* has been more active during the week, and is in better shape. A considerable proportion of the stocks have been gathered into stronger hands. The arrivals for the week are pretty large, however, amounting to some 125 bales, as against about 60 exported. Prices are firmer at 7½c. to 8c. as to quality and quantity. California *Yellow mustard seed* is very firm at 8½c., and is reported as generally scarce. *Quinine* is rather easier, owing to unfavourable foreign advices and to lack of important demand. Quotations remain at 18½c. *Opium* is stronger under unfavourable crop reports from Smyrna, and the ruling quotations have been advanced to \$1.80 to \$1.85 in cases as to test, and \$1.82½ to \$1.87½ for jobbing quantities. New crop *Manna* has come to hand, and is quoted at \$1.25 for large flake, while old crop has eased off to \$1.10. *Caffeine* has again advanced, and is now quoted at \$2.30 in 20 lb. lots. *Camphor* (refined) has advanced, and is now quoted at 50c. to 51c. for domestic refined, and at 47c. to 49c. for the Japan compressed tablets. *Ipecacuanha* is weaker, and has sold down to \$1.80 to \$1.85. *Tragacanth* is stronger, in sympathy with the foreign market. *Shellac* is firmer in tone, and sales fairly good at unchanged figures—25½c. to 26c. for D.C. *Cocoa-butter* is easier on reports from abroad, and is quoted at 29c. to 30c. for Dutch in bulk. New crop Italian *Anise* has arrived, but the quantity to hand (200 bales) has already been placed. Ex wharf 11c. has been paid, while ex store 11½c. is the figure. *Menthol* continues firm at \$3.75 to \$4. *Lycopodium* has advanced to 43c. to 45c. under unfavourable reports as to the new crops.

The London Markets.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., December 15.

ACID (CARBOLIC)—A convention among the makers is talked about, and in several quarters the quotations have

been raised. For liquid carbolic, 95 to 97 per cent., 1s. 6d. per gallon is now asked by most of the manufacturers. Crystals have been advanced to 6½d. to 7d. per lb. for 39° to 40°, and to 6d. per lb. for 34° to 35°, although some of the makers say that this only applies to very large contracts, and that they will continue to execute ordinary drug-trade orders at the old rates. Second-hand holders still offer at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per gallon for liquid 95-97, and at 5½d. to 6d. per lb. for crystals according to degree. It is stated that the convention prices will be fixed on Monday next. Meanwhile, it is practically impossible to obtain prices for forward delivery. All tar products are much dearer. *Benzol* is quoted at 1s. 9½d. for 90 per cent., and 1s. 5d. for 50 per cent., London made.

ACID (CITRIC).—A quiet market, at 1s. 5½d. to 1s. 5¾d. per lb. Juice is quoted at 17l. 10s. to 17l. 15s. The exports of citric acid from England have been, in—

—	1889	1890	1891	1892
November..	Cwts. 469	Cwts. 362	Cwts. 371	Cwts. 555
Jan. 1 to Nov. 30..	5,550	5,668	4,663	6,860

The imports of concentrated lemon and bergamot juices into London were, in—

—	1889	1890	1891	1892
November..	Pipes 174	Pipes 190	Pipes 40	Pipes 52
Jan. 1 to Nov. 30..	3,753	3,591	1,621	2,098

AMMONIA SALTS.—*Carbonate* in bulk is offered at 3d. per lb., and in jars at 3½d. per lb. net. Rough *Muriate* (chloride) is worth 21s. 6d.; white ditto, 26s. 6d. per cwt.

ANISE—It is stated that in Russia there is now very little left of the last crop. The price here is 24s. per cwt. for good quality new, and from 1s. to 2s. less for old seed.

BALSAM (COPAIBA).—Fairly steady; in Liverpool cloudy to fair *Maranham* has sold at 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 7d. per lb.

BORATE OF LIME.—A shipment of 65 tons of this article is expected next week from the Persian Gulf. This is the first Persian borate of lime that has been brought to our market.

BUCHU.—There has been another arrival of 8 packages by the *Pembroke Castle* from Cape Town.

CAMPHOR (CRUDE).—There is not much business doing; but the position of the spot market is exceedingly well maintained at 175s. per cwt. for *Japanese*, and 165s. for *Chinese* camphor. Some crude China, due in January-February, was being offered yesterday at 155s., c.i.f., but since then holders have reduced their ideas, and would now accept 155s., c.i.f.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—The quotations show less diversity. All the English makers now ask 2s. for bells, while the German and French makers ask 1s. 11½d. per lb. net.

CANARY-SEED has attracted increased attention lately, and considerable quantities have changed hands at somewhat higher prices—viz., from 76s. 6d. up to 79s. for *Turkish* (according to quality), 77s. 6d. to 80s. for *Morocco*, and 83s. to 85s. for *Spanish* seeds, all per 464 lbs.

CASTORUM.—The first annual Hudson's Bay sale of castor-um was well attended to-day, and the comparatively small quantity offered was disposed of, with fierce competition, at prices very much in excess of any recorded before. Last year from 60s. to 70s. per lb. was paid for "firsts," but this week that description brought from 99s. up to 107s. per lb.; firsts and seconds mixed, 102s. to 105s.; good seconds, 98s. to 104s.; wet seconds, 73s. to 76s.; thirds, from 77s. to 88s.; and pickings, from 67s. up to 80s. per lb. The finer qualities were very poorly represented. Fully two-thirds of the whole quantity (about 1,400 lbs.) which was offered was purchased by one export firm.

CHAMOMILES.—Selling slowly at the recent increase in value. For best quality Belgian flowers 82s. is wanted, and the prices range downward from that point to 55s. per cwt.

CHLORAL HYDRATE remains very firm at the convention price, or 1d. per lb. below that figure in the second hand.

CINCHONA.—At Tuesday's fortnightly auctions (the last of the current year) a moderate quantity was offered. The catalogues comprised of:—

	Packages	Packages
Ceylon cinchona	1,351 of which	1,155 were sold
East India cinchona ..	317	317
Java cinchona	64	64
South American cinchona ..	203	208
	1,940	1,744

With a very poor assortment of bark, the highest price paid for any lot was only 6½d. per lb. At the beginning of the sale the tone was rather quiet, but gradually it improved somewhat, and, upon the whole, it may be said that the prices obtained were slightly above those of the auctions last preceding, the unit being 1½d. per lb. upon the average. The following are the approximate quantities purchased by the principal buyers:—

	Lbs.
Agents for the Auerbach factory	90,368
" Mannheim and Amsterdam factories ..	73,788
" Frankfurt-o/Main and Stuttgart factories	61,741
" American and Italian factories	55,280
" Brunswick factory	48,506
Messrs. Howards & Sons	13,489
Agents for the Paris factory	7,610
Sundry druggists	46,330
Total quantity of bark sold	397,102
Bought in or withdrawn	48,640
Total quantity offered	445,742

It should be well understood that the quantity of bark bought gives little or no clue to the quinine represented by the purchases, as firms who buy little will sometimes bid for rich barks only, and *vice versa*. The following are the prices paid for sound bark:—

CEYLON CINCHONA.—*Original*.—Red varieties: Ordinary thin twigs, 1½d. to 2d.; fair, partly woody to good bright quilly branch and stem chips, 2d. to 4d.; root, 2½d. to 3½d. per lb. Grey varieties: Ordinary to good bright quilly branch and stem chips, 2½d. to 6½d. per lb. Yellow varieties: Ordinary to fair chips, 3½d. to 5½d.; root, 4½d. to 4½d. per lb. Hybrid chips, 2½d. per lb. *Renewed*.—Ordinary to good strong stem and branch chips, 2½d. to 3½d. per lb.; grey fair to fine bright quilly chips, 5d. to 6½d. per lb. Hybrid chips, 3½d. to 3½d. per lb.

EAST INDIAN CINCHONA.—*Original*.—Red varieties: Ordinary to good bright quilly branch and stem chips, 1½d. to 3d.; dull to fair druggists' quill, 2d. to 4d.; fine bright spokeshavings, 3d. to 3½d.; dull dust, 1d.; ordinary root, 1½d. to 1½d. per lb. Grey varieties: Dull to fair bright quilly chips, 2d. to 3½d.; shavings, 3d. to 3½d.; good strong quilly but damaged chips, 5½d. to 6d.; root, 3½d. to 4d. per lb. Yellow varieties: Ordinary to good bright quilly stem and branch chips, 2d. to 5½d.; fine spokeshavings, 5½d. per lb. Hybrid chips, 2d. to 3½d. per lb. *Renewed*.—Red varieties: Common to good bright quilly chips and shavings, 2d. to 4½d. per lb. Grey varieties: Good shavings, 5½d.; ordinary to fair quilly chips, 3½d. to 4½d. per lb. Yellow varieties: Good bright chips, 5½d. to 6d. per lb. Hybrid chips, 2½d. per lb.

JAVA CINCHONA.—A poor assortment sold as follows:—Ledger dust, 3½d.; thin branch chips, 1½d. to 1½d.; root, 4½d.; broken quill and stem chips, 2½d. to 4d. per lb.

SOUTH AMERICAN CINCHONA.—A parcel of cultivated Bolivian Calisaya quill, mostly broken and damaged, sold at 4½d. to 5½d. per lb. for thin and irregular, and 6½d. to 6½d. per lb. for fair stout.

At the Amsterdam auctions on Thursday last, 25,318 kilos. bark, representing 1,187 kilos. sulphate of quinine, were bought in. About 10 per cent. of this quantity sold immediately after the sales. The following equivalents of quinine were bought by the principal buyers:—

The Auerbach factory	5,432 Kgr. sulph quinine
" Brunswick	3,529
" Mannheim	3,497
Mr. Gustav Briegleb	1,562
The Frankfurt-o/Main factory	1,092
Messrs. Matthers & Bormeester	461

The agents for Messrs. Böhringer & Sons assure us that the quantity of bark exported from Ceylon to Amsterdam and Hamburg does not by any means represent the total of their direct purchases in the island, as much of what they buy from the growers is forwarded to London and transhipped.

CLOVES are higher, 3½d. per lb. having been paid for good Zanzibar at auction. The existence is affirmed of a syndicate in Zanzibar pledged to regulate the clove shipments, and, if necessary, to keep the stock on hand until prices have advanced. At auction only 169 bales Zanzibar cloves were offered, of which 40 sold at 3½d. per lb. for fully fair. Fair to good bright selected Java brought 5½d. to 6½d.; unpicked to fair picked Penang, 7d. to 11d. per lb.

CONDURANGO.—There has been a fresh arrival of 48 bales from Havre this week.

ERGOT OF RYE quiet and unchanged. German is offering at 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f. terms.

GENTIAN-ROOT is rather higher. Fine French is now quoted at 18s. 6d., chumpy at 17s. 6d. per cwt., and powder at 23s. 6d. per cwt. These prices are not unlikely to cause supplies to be brought from Spain and Italy, from which countries no gentian is imported, as a rule, when the price is moderate.

GLYCERINE is reported dearer. Some of the makers have advanced their quotation to 46s. per cwt. for best double-distilled, s.g. 1.260.

GUM ACACIA.—*Soudan sorts* remain very quiet, with small sales of hard reddish to good, partly hard, at 60s. to 70s. per cwt. There is a small supply of *Talca* and *Gehzirah* gum in the market, which is held at 30s. to 35s. per cwt. for the first, and about 5s. extra for the last named.

GUM ELEMI.—Good white Manila is offering at 41s. per cwt., c.i.f. terms, from Hamburg.

HONEY.—*Jamaica* is very firmly held by the owners, who ask 30s. to 32s. per cwt. for fair brown liquid. *Californian* is scarce and dear in New York, and on the Pacific Coast there appears to be very little left; 52s. 6d., c.i.f., for pale amber is the price.

IPECACUANHA.—There has been a small arrival of 11 packages from Monte Video this week. Some sales of fair quality Carthagena root have been made privately at 4s. 10d. per lb., which is a slight improvement on the drug-sale prices.

JALAP is reported higher, and 2 tons are said to have been sold in New York at the rate of 1s. 7d. per lb., c.i.f. terms.

MAGNESIA.—*Calined* in bulk may be had at 10d. per lb.; in 1-lb. bottles at 1s. 4d. per lb. *Carbonate* is quoted at 40s. per cwt. for lump or powder in chests.

MERCURIALS.—Notwithstanding the fall in quicksilver, the makers of mercurial preparations have not made any alterations in their prices at present.

MUSK.—In several quarters we hear reports that a fair amount of business has been doing privately in *Tonguin* musk this week: first pile pods, blue and brown skin mixed and heavy underskin, are said to have sold at 76s. per oz., and 77s. 6d. is talked of. It is also said that for fine blue-skin pods bids of 77s. 6d. per oz. have been refused. *Cabordine* musk is reported weak, with sales of fair Russian at 11s.

OIL (CASTOR) is in good demand at the low price now prevailing.

OIL (COD-LIVER).—Somewhat lower offers are in the market. Hamburg asks 71s. per barrel, c.i.f. terms, for non-congealing Lofoden oil of the 1892 season.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—On the spot the price of *Menthol* remains 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d. per lb.; and for January delivery sales are actually reported to have been made at 11s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.; but for February delivery 9s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., would be accepted. It is stated that the yield of *Bergamot* oil in Calabria has been satisfactory, and, unless speculators should again drive up prices, the new oil will probably be offering more cheaply as the season goes on. The crop of Turkish *Geranium* oil is small, and higher prices are looked for. America reports that HGH oil is being "beared

to death," and that prices are likely to keep low. The price here is 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d., and that of Wayne county 9s. 6d. per lb. For oil of *Star-anise* many different prices are quoted, but the market is higher all round. On the spot from 6s. 5d. to 6s. 7d. per lb is talked of, and for oil bear at hand (ex the *Cardiganshire*) 5s. 11d. to 6s., c.i.f., is the quotation, while for delivery at the end of the month 6s. 2d. per lb., c.i.f., is asked. The prices recede according to the distance of the shipment—thus, November-December shipment is quoted at 5s. 5d. to 5s. 6d., c.i.f., and December-January at 5s. 4d. to 5s. 5d. per lb., c.i.f. Oil of *Lemongrass* is quoted at 1⁹/₁₀d. per oz. on the spot.

OIL OF BAYS.—Trieste oil of the new crop, expressed from the green berries, is dearer, and for qualities which previously sold at 10d. to 11d., 1s. 1d. per lb. must now be paid.

OIL (OLIVE).—In Italy the price of new olive oil has lately advanced considerably. Our advices from Leghorn are that the new crop has been an unusually poor one, and with the existing brisk demand it is thought that all descriptions will still further improve in value.

OPIMUM.—We have to report a quiet market, with very little business. The following are now our quotations:—Good to fine soft shipping, 9s. to 11s.; good to fine Smyrna, 8s. to 8s. 6d.; seconds, druggists', 7s. to 7s. 6d.; Constantinople, ordinary to fine, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; Egyptian and Alexandretta, 5s. to 8s. 6d.; Persian, 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per lb. Our Smyrna correspondent writes on December 3:—"Since my telegram on November 30 a further advance has taken place in our opium market, owing to the eagerness of speculators to operate, and 103 cases of the new current talequal qualities have been taken since the commencement of the week from 7s. 6d. to 7s. 9d., which was the last price paid by a party who, it is reported, was under an engagement to fulfil a contract previously made with a New York house. To-day the market is quiet, and there are sellers, but no buyers, at 7s. 9d., f.o.b." This is from Constantinople, under date of December 7:—"The existencies of opium to-day in Turkey are about 4,200 cases, or, allowing that 1,500 will be brought here, we have an available supply for shipment until June, 1893, when new crop commences, of some 2,700 cases. The arrivals of soft shipping (Malatia, Tokat, Zille, &c.) to date are only 449 cases, against 885 to same date in 1891. The total output of these grades may, therefore, be safely estimated at 600 to 650 cases in all."

QUICKSILVER.—The secondhand holders have been offering at low prices all the week, and on Wednesday the principal importers reduced their quotation to 6l. 2s. 6d., at which figure both parties now remain.

QUININE.—The market is firmer, although there is not much business; 9¹/₂d. per oz. is now reported to be the last sale price, and it is said there are "rather buyers" at that figure.

SEEDS (VARIOUS).—Fine *mustard*-seed still finds a ready sale, although the market is, upon the whole, rather quieter. *Fenugreek*-seed is well inquired for, particularly for export. *Cumin* and *Blue marseed* are scarce and firmly held, and *Coriander* dull. *Linseed* keeps steady, at 54s. to 56s. for Sicilian, 40s. to 42s. for East Indian and Russian, and 39s. to 42s. for River Plate variety. *Hempseed* is irregular and generally lower on the spot (Russian, 32s. per 336 lbs.), and offering more freely for shipment. *Rapeseed* quiet, at 45s. to 48s. per 416 lbs. for French, and 48s. 6d. to 50s. for Dutch.

SHELLAC.—The market has been very animated this week, and a considerable amount of business has been transacted at rising prices. At the auctions 725 cases were offered, and 558 of these sold, with excellent competition, at an advance of 4s to 5s per lb. on *Orange*, 4s on *Garnet* and 2s. to 3s. on *Button* lac, as compared with the previous auctions. The following prices were paid:—*Orange*, worked, fair to good pale, 90s. to 93s.; livery to good strong red, 84s. to 89s.; block, 83s. to 84s.; unworked, fair reddish to bright flat, rather weak, 87s. to 89s.; blocky and livery, 84s. per cwt. *Garnet*, good flat worked AC, 80s. to 81s.; curly cakey unworked, 78s. to 79s. per cwt. *Button*, ordinary unworked seconds, 92s.; good "circle II," 89s.; good thirds, 86s. per cwt. In the speculative market prices have been rising steadily, closing as follows:—Second orange TN, December, 90s. 6d., and January, 91s. 6d. per cwt.

SOY.—China soy is much dearer. Sales have been made from 1s. 5d. per gallon upwards, and holders now require 1s. 9d.

STAR-ANISE.—Thirty cases have at last arrived from Hong Kong in the *Myrmidon*, and about three hundred from Hamburg. The spot quotation still remains nominally 120s. per cwt., but when the new parcels are placed upon the market lower rates may become acceptable. For December-January shipment, 79s. per cwt., c.i.f., is asked.

SULPHATE OF COPPER.—Very firm at 15l. 15s. to 16l. on the spot in London. For forward delivery (first four or five months of 1893) 17l. 10s. is asked here.

TEA.—The market for Monings is very steady, and with a good export demand and a strong statistical position it appears unlikely that we shall see lower rates, though red-leaved teas are not so strong. There has been some demand for common old Caper, and large quantities have lately changed hands at 3¹/₄d. per lb.—teas which at the lowest point were selling at 2³/₄d. Indians are firm for teas under 9d., and there is very little leaf-tea to be bought under 7¹/₂d. per lb. Fine Pekoes are in excess of the demand, and sell at irregular and in some cases very low rates, while as regards broken Pekoes the Irish demand is for the moment almost entirely for teas under 1s., which are eagerly competed for at full prices, while teas over 1s. are quite neglected. Rather a larger quantity of Ceylon tea has been brought to auction this week than of late, and has sold quietly, though without any very marked decline, save for broken under 1s.

TONQUIN BEANS.—The London market remains quiet but firm, with a rather small supply of all kinds. *Angostura* beans are held nominally at 8s. to 10s. per lb. for fine bold frosted; *Pará*, good to fine frosted black, 2s. to 2s. 9d.; common foxy to fair black, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 11d. per lb.

VALERIAN-ROOT firmly held at 32s. 6d. per cwt. for best Belgian.

THE SMYRNA OPIUM MARKET.

(Telegram from our Correspondent.)

SMYRNA, December 14.

The opium market is dull, and closes with a decidedly weaker tendency. Only 20 cases of manufacturing opium of the usual kind have changed hands this week for London, at the rate of 7s. 6d. per lb., f.o.b. Smyrna, a reduction of 3d. per lb. upon the highest quotation of last week.

THE NEW YORK DRUG MARKET.

(Cablegram from our Correspondent.)

NEW YORK, Wednesday night.

The price of *Angostura Tonquin beans* has fallen to \$2.15 per lb., owing to the arrival here of heavy consignments. *Cascara sagrada* is also much lower again; sales have taken place at the rate of 7¹/₂c. per lb. Honduras *Sarsaparilla* shows a very strong market.

THE LIVERPOOL MARKET.

CALABAR BEANS.—Holders show more disposition to retain their stocks, and bids of 2¹/₄d. have been refused, the price for the week being 2¹/₂d.

CANARY-SEED.—After remaining stagnant for a few weeks, this is again moving, and considerable business has been done at 75s.

GUINEA GRAINS.—These are steadily creeping up, and 25s. has been paid for a quantity of clean bright seed.

QUILLATA.—Recent arrivals have all changed hands, and now 17l. 10s. is market value of good clean bark.

WAX (BEES).—Still in good demand. For *Gambia*, offered at auction, bids of 6l. 1s. to 6l. 2s. 6d. were refused, 6l. 5s. being the idea of holders. *Bombay white* is firmly held at 7l. 13s. 9d., and yellow at 6l. 15s. *Chilian*, although exhibiting great firmness, is unchanged in value.

Correspondence.

We give Inquirers a turn this week, reserving all letters to the Editor, and the more recent queries, all of which we hope to dispose of next week.

LEGAL QUERIES.

181/5. *Emmenagogue*.—It is always desirable in putting a legal question to state the circumstance definitely. We have frequently to guess at the meaning of inquirers. The pills indicated are not suitable for a chemist to prescribe. They should only be administered under competent medical guidance.

182/66. *Cicero*.—An unqualified man keeping a drug-store and describing himself as "analytical chemist," is liable to a penalty of 5*l*. The label would render the medicine liable to medicine-stamp duty.

183/16. *R. G. R.*—It is not legal for an unregistered person to conduct the sale of a scheduled poison, whether he be employed by a registered man, a limited company, or by anyone else. The transactions to which you refer would be wholesale dealing. He may conduct such.

181/42. *E. L.*—The labels do not of themselves render the mixture liable, and you need not stamp them if there is no other recommendation.

181/69. *Crinis*.—A licence (at the lower rate) for armorial bearings is required for the use in Great Britain of a crest in correspondence. A motto alone may be used without licence. The act imposing a licence-duty for the use of armorial bearings does not extend to the Isle of Man. There is no exemption in favour of Manxmen temporarily residing in Great Britain. A minor is not exempt.

188/7. *Chemicus*.—The British wines we know of are fermented wines, and retailers of them require a sweets licence. (See DIARY, Licences.)

186/42. *Fairplay*.—We suggest that you should give exact particulars of the infringements of the Pharmacy Act which you allege to the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, 17 Bloomsbury Square, and if action is not taken please write to us again, sending us the correspondence.

187/27. *Lew.*—Battle's vermin-killer, which contains strychnine, must be treated as a poison under part 1 of the schedule. The Act requires that the name of the article should appear on the packet, and the name of the article is Battle's Vermin-killer.

7/6. *Tartaric Acid*.—One registered chemist in a firm does not entitle the firm to keep open shop for the sale of poisons. He himself would not be liable to a penalty, but his partner or partners would be. The actual seller of the poison, too, must be a registered chemist. Any other person selling a poison is personally liable to a penalty.

189/15. *X. Y. Z* asks: "(1) Can a widow carry on her late husband's business as chemist, &c., with a qualified manager; (2) and still use the same labels, in her husband's name; or (3) should the manager's name be used? The widow is executrix."

[(1) Yes; (2) she may trade in her own name, or as "executrix of the late—"; if she does as proposed it will only be similar to what many of the principal pharmacists in the kingdom do; (3) no.]

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

172/3. *Ejford*.—The following is a suitable formula for Gripe-mixture for children:—

Potass. bicarb.	..	..	..	..	5iss.
Potass. bromid.	..	..	..	..	5iss.
Syrupi	..	..	..	..	3iv.
Aq. anethi ad	..	..	..	..	3viij.

S. et M.

Dose: A teaspoonful in half a wineglassful of warm water. The child to sip this mixture.

174/17. *A. S. W.*—Iodoform Ointments are liable to become dark through the liberation of iodine, especially if the basis is lard. Adeps lanae is not so objectionable, and light influences the change greatly.

175/16. *B. H.*—Book on Manure and Farm Analyses. —Professor P. F. Frankland's "Agricultural Chemistry" (Macmillan, 7s. 6*d*.).

175/21. *W. H. B.*—Book on Urine-analysis.—Legg's "Examination of Urine" (Lewis, 2s. 6*d*.). A subscription must be in force in December to entitle the subscriber to the DIARY of the year following. You will, therefore, get the 1893 DIARY.

171/3. *M. B.*—Bromidia.—There is a formula for a similar preparation in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, January 31, 1891, page 157. Or try the following:—Mist. Chloral. et Potassii Bromidi (Edin. Inf. Pharmac.)

Bromide of potassium	..	..	..	..	5vj.
Chloral hydrate	..	..	..	..	5vj.
Tincture of hyoscyamus	..	..	..	..	3iij.
" cannabis indica	..	..	..	..	3iss.
Lemon syrup	..	..	..	..	3iij.
Distilled water to	..	..	..	..	3vj.

Dissolve and mix.

Dose: 5ij.

170/70. *Vinolia*.—Try the formula given last week.

168/60. *E. S. V.*—(1) Thanks. We indexed the notes in several volumes, and will keep it up. (2) See legal queries. (3) Hydroquinone solutions are the better for keeping, and many photographers make it a point of using some old solution along with new so as to ensure softness. (4) There is no difficulty in a person with different sighted eyes seeing through a monocular microscope, either when using spectacles or not. (5) If chlorate of potassium is rubbed hard with any organic material it may explode. The best plan in the case of the cooling powders is to rub the chlorate fine then mix with the liquorice and sugar by sifting.

174/30. *G. D. Coy.*—Huxley's "Physiology" (Macmillan, 4s. 6*d*.) is a good book for giving a general knowledge of the anatomy of the human body.

175/73. *H. T. D.*—Three grains of strychnine will kill the biggest dog in the universe if given on an empty stomach, and if the animal be tied up.

173/48. *Country Johnny*.—The hours of shutting in London vary from 7 P.M. in the City to 11 and 12 in suburban and E.C. districts. Assistants are on duty for that length of time at least.

174/11. *Rad.*—(1) There is no simple and inexpensive way of evaporating *in vacuo*. For an apparatus suitable for a retailer, see THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, January 30, 1892, page 161. (2) Consult the advertisements in the DIARY.

176/25. *W. H. Wallace*.—We cannot possibly say what graph composition her Majesty's stationery office use. Are they any wiser or cleverer there than elsewhere? You will find all the formulæ for graphs in our last volume.

176/63. *Ginger*.—For soluble essence of ginger see page 275 of this volume. You have only to refer to back volumes to find many more formulæ.

176/16. *Galvanic*.—Leclanché batteries are charged with equal parts of broken gas-carbon and oxide of manganese in the porous pot, and with a saturated solution of sal-ammoniac in the outer vessel.

177/20. *Phosphate*.—Thanks. We have taken "Liq. picis carb." to mean a mental slip for "Liq. carb. deterg.," or its equivalent.

177/69. *Emigrant*.—The condition of Pharmacy in Manitoba is not a bit better than what it is at home. There you will meet with a limited field, with a pharmacy law based on the English one, but a grand prospect, as was said to the young pastor who looked round his congregation, consisting mainly of empty benches. You certainly should not go out to Winnipeg straight away, especially at this season of the year. If you have no friends out there to advise you, write to Mr. I. T. Lewis, Secretary of the Ontario College of Pharmacy, Gerard Street, Toronto, Ontario. There are more druggists in Manchester than in the whole of Manitoba, and the main chance is in waiting the development of the country.

177/28. *E. S. I.*.—We expect that the inside surface of your glass carboy is corroded; or, if it is quite new, that it has been fired a little too much during the annealing. Nothing will remedy these faults.

177/15. *S. H. W.*.—The slightest trace of aniline green in aqueous solution will give the proper tint to Glycerine Jelly. Tincture of spinach (one part of fresh spinach to four of proof spirit) is just as good.

177/12. *Nemo*.—How much water must be added to 1 gallon S.V.R., 60 o.p. to make it 56 o.p.? Multiply the percentage of proof spirit in the liquid required, *i.e.* 56° = 156 per cent., and divide by the percentage of proof spirit in the spirit taken, *i.e.* 60° = 160 per cent. The answer is the number of volumes of the 60° spirit which must be diluted with water to 100 in order to make 56° spirit.

174/56. *J. W. B.* asks us to advise him whether he should cut patent medicines or not. His account from such at present averages 10% a month, retailing, "chiefly," he says, at full prices. A neighbouring grocer does 150% a month, or more, in patents, and our correspondent is confident that by issuing a list he could attract two-thirds of the trade. But he is afraid, if he should do this, he might injure his present good dispensing trade. If the figures thus stated are even approximately correct, they are somewhat startling. If a grocer and a chemist are about equally well situated, it is clear, as regards the medicine business, the latter has initially the best chance. If, then, the grocer can build up a 10-per-cent. trade fifteen times as large as that of the chemist's 30 per-cent. business, the public preference for the 10-per-cent. business is pretty clearly demonstrated. One piece of advice we can give our correspondent confidently. He says he gets "chiefly" full prices for patents. That means, we suppose, he gets it when he can, but reduces his charges when customers complain. This is assuredly a bad principle. Whatever price is adopted should be an invariable one.

175/11. *W. Cooke*.—The bichromate solution for a battery is made by adding to a saturated solution of pot. bichrom. 15 per cent. of sulphuric acid by weight.

173/50. *Valerianella*.—Senna is freed from resin by percolation with rectified spirit. This does not detract from the laxative efficacy of the drug.

167/13. *G. B.*.—Drying-salve, to be applied to cows before calving, is a mixture of 20 grains of roche alum with 1 oz. of marshmallow ointment. To dry cows properly they should be drenched.

173/14. *Numbum*.—You will find as much information as you require regarding lead in Thorpe's "Dictionary of Technical Chemistry" or Roscoe and Schorlemmer's "Chemistry." For general metallurgy, see any Encyclopædia.

180/71. *Ejusdem*.—There is no book of pharmaceutical microscopy published. The nearest thing is Mr. P. W. Squire's "Methods and Formulæ," which is excellent.

179/42. *Pelagos*.—Double the cost.

179/25. *Keep Morin*.—The White Etching ink which you refer to is a mixture of ammonium fluoride and sulphuric acid.

212/92. *Alum*.—What is the nature of the varnish?

181/65. *Wills*.—The herb is harmless, we understand.

182/1. *A. E. S.*.—Thanks; but at present there is too great a demand upon our space to sacrifice much more of it to apprentices. Then there is always the question of cost to consider, and that would not be trifling.

182/24. *Tasmania*.—(1) Equal parts of glycerine and spirit may be used for preserving the anatomical specimens. (2) From the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society; 6s.

182/6. *Hughes*.—Human Blood contains 22 per cent. of solids. These are: Fatty matter 14, extractives 64, inorganic salts 6, fibrin 22, serum albumin and globulin 7, and corpuscles 13.4. For the constituent elements of any of these, see Huxley's "Physiology" or any similar work.

182/5. *Anti-humbug*.—Yes; six years ago. Let it rest.

183/60. *Leslie*.—(1) Artificial holly-berries are made with red sealing-wax, and mistletoe with translucent paraffin. (2) In a similar way to larger capsules. (3) *Pil. eonymi* co. is a private formula, we presume.

183/68. *Sugar*.—You must first let us know the quantities of the goods you are able to buy; but you can as fitly get the information from the advertisements appearing week by week in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and in the DIARY.

187/29. *A. P. T.*.—Vegetable powders should be kept in stoppered bottles.

Information Wanted

Replies to the following are requested by subscribers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

180/24. Calico bags for bird-seed: where obtainable?

178/70. What is meant by lin. opii fort.?

185/5. Makers of glob. prunella moulds.

184/9. What is the composition of Herpetine Durel—a Parisian preparation?